FLAT

Slice of Life Slice of Bliss

Volume 3 Chapter 14

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TODDLING ALONG

Natsu Aogiri Presents.

Almost forgot, the baker
Akkun,
Stay!
Swiftly, like the wind.
whoosh
shock
release
How pitiful!
Poor thing!

فصل ۱ ..... ۱
فصل ۲ ..... ۲۵
فصل ۳ ..... ۴۱
فصل ۴ ..... ۶۱
فصل ۵ ..... ۱۰۵

flat;trouble troubles me

SO— STARTING FROM NEXT MEETING

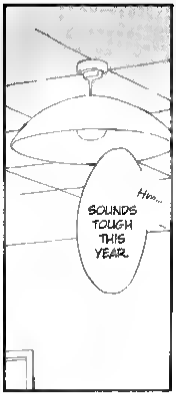
PLEASE GATHER AND DISCUSS IN YOUR OWN GROUPS

YAWN
SCHOOL FESTIVAL HUH?

I guess it's that time of year already
HM.
LIKE
THE GROUP IS LEANING TOWARDS
AND?
What're you doing?
PARFAIT RECIPES SOMETHING?
FOOD? THAT'S COOL
WE'RE DOING THE DECORATING
But not all of us are here today
HMPH
WELL, I DON'T MIND
It's all good
WHATEVER.
ANYTHING IS FINE
ZERO MOTIVATION
Where do ya wanna go?
YOU BETTER COME
Since we've already decided who's presenting that day
YOU'RE IN THE SAME GROUP?
OKAY OKAY
I'm sorry
THAT'S NOT VERY REASSURING
YEAH

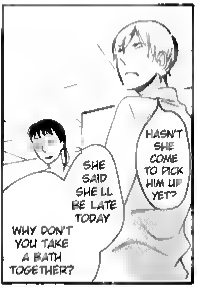
That was a bit...
Okaaay..
Not that it really matters. Just don't cause me any trouble
RIGHT?
SCARY
THE EXE-CUTIVE COMM-ITTEE
IS KINDA INTENSE, AREN'T THEY...
YEAH
EVEN IF YOUR FRIENDS AREN'T THERE DO YOUR WORK PROPERLY, YOU HEAR?
.....
Okaaay..
IN THE SAME GROUP, HUH?
Will they be ok?

'CAUSE IT'S JUST A SNACK BOOTH
EVEN IF YOU COME, THERE AIN'T GONNA BE ANYTHING INNOVATIVE
Probably


Hmm...
SOUNDS TOUGH THIS YEAR.

SO WHEN IS IT?
HUH? YOU REALLY WANNA GO?
I'M JUST ASKING

DON'T SNACK BEFORE DINNER!
And you're still in your uniform!
NOW HEI-SUKE
BUT IT SOUNDS AMUSING!
NO NEED TO NAG


HASN'T SHE COME TO PICK HIM UP YET?
SHE SAID SHE'LL BE LATE TODAY
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A BATH TOGETHER?

Why must we fight?
Why?
Perhaps it's our fate.

HM, WHEN IS IT?

+HUH+
...!?

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DON'T WANT TO
YEAH
'CUZ, WELL...
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO TO THAT EXTE-
Cover

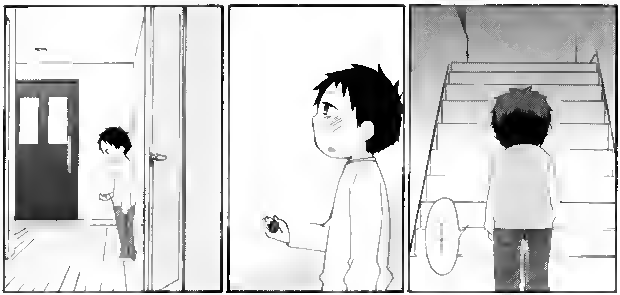
NO. IT'S BECAUSE HE'D GET DEPRESSED IF HE HEARD ME SAY THAT
NON-SENSE.

HE DIDN'T HEAR ME!
THANK GOD!
Whew!
YOU'RE SURPRI-SINGLY SENSITIVE

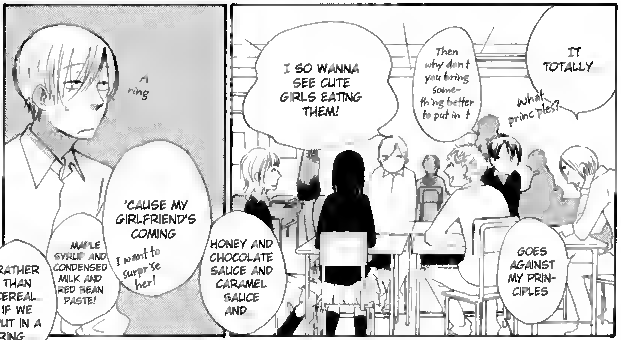
peek

THERE'S NOTHING WEIRD ABOUT TAKING A BATH TOGETHER WHEN YOU'RE GOOD FRIENDS
AHAHA
HAHAHA

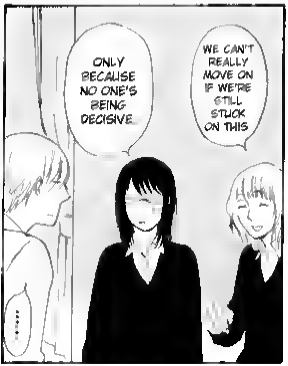
COME ON, HEISUKE
NO WAY MOM
fidget
fidget
I'M GOING TO CHANGE OUT OF MY UNIFORM
step step step
WELL IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO, THEN TAKE OVER DINNER
HELL NO
DO IT!



Is that really a good idea?
BUT DO WE NEED CEREAL UNDERNEATH THE PARFAIT?
This is just my opinion on...
ANY-WAY


A ring
RATHER THAN CEREAL, IF WE PUT IN A RING
MAPLE SYRUP AND CONDENSED MILK AND RED BEAN PASTE!
'CAUSE MY GIRLFRIEND'S COMING
I want to surprise her!
I SO WANNA SEE CUTE GIRLS EATING THEM!
HONEY AND CHOCOLATE SAUCE AND CARAMEL SAUCE AND...
Then why don't you bring something better to put in it
IT TOTALLY
What principles?
GOES AGAINST MY PRINCIPLES

Oh really...
HEY
IF WE'RE LATE BY A MINUTE OR EVEN A SECOND WE PROBABLY WON'T MAKE IT
AREN'T WE...?
WE'RE STILL DELIBERATING
WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF WE PUT IN A RING LIKE THIS?
The Rose of Versailles


ONLY BECAUSE NO ONE'S BEING DECISIVE
WE CAN'T REALLY MOVE ON IF WE'RE STILL STUCK ON THIS
.....

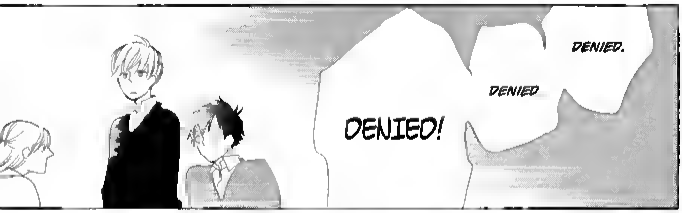
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS!?
Me?
HUH!?

What's with this lame plan!?
Do that somewhere else, you hear!?
Somewhere else!

OH

Isn't that obvious?
shave
TRUE
BUT, IT'S NOT LIKE I EAT THEM
Yeah..
DON'T YOU OFTEN MAKE SWEETS?

bloom
OR WHIPPED CREAM
LIKE ICE CREAM,
MAYBE IF THEY'RE SAMPLES...
BUT, HOW WOULD WE KEEP THEM FRESH?
HEY,
WHAT KINDS WOULD WE GET TO EAT?
I WANT FRESH FRUIT.
SUDDENLY HE'S MOTIVATED
I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD DO SAMPLES THOUGH


DENIED.
DENIED
DENIED!

BUT,
THIS IS TAKING WAY TOO LONG!
I THOUGHT REALLY HARD ABOUT IT
How many times have I said that!
FIRST STAY WITHIN BUDGET!

What if?
I SAID NO SUCH THING!
BUT YOU SAID TO TELL YOU WHAT I WANNA EAT
AREN'T THEY JUST THINGS YOU WANT TO EAT!?
Can we tell you too?
What's going on over there?

Are you kidding!?
UM...
HM?
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?

Argh!
ARE THEY
OKAY?

AND YOUR IDEA WOULD BLOW THE BUDGET!
BUT IF WE REALLY TRY WE COULD DO IT-
poke

Pant
I'M HOME
Shut
!
*Yakimochi: grilled rice cakes
I KNOW IT'S LAST MINUTE BUT I'VE ALREADY MADE ARRANGE-MENTS SO
In any case, just make them yummy.
and you can eat them too so ?
LAST MINUTE LIKE TO-DAY?
WE'RE SELLING YAKIMOCHI* AT THE FESTIVAL BUT WE DON'T HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE MAKING THEM
AH
CAN YOU HELP OUT?
I WONDER IF HE HEARD ME
turn
turn
WELCOME BACK!
We have daifuku* Get some tea
step
step
step
step
*Daifuku, rice cakes stuffed with bean jam
OH?
YOU'RE GOING OUT?
JUST FOR A BIT
RUN-NING ERR-ANDS?

close
appear
TAKE CARE!
I thought he was just dithering here and there
but I guess he's actually busy with school
.....
. . . . . .
HM?
ISN'T THAT
THE CARAMEL THAT YOU BROUGHT ALONG BEFORE?
you haven't eaten it yet huh...
shake
shake
OH?
IS THAT FOR AUNTIE?

Am
HEY
So today
IT'S BEEN PRETTY FUN LATELY DON'T YOU THINK?
OH YEAH MAYBE
I MEAN, THERE DON'T SEEM TO BE ANY PROBLEMS ANYWAY!
IT'S NOT LIKE I SAID THEY TASTED GOOD
Really?
Yeah
Seems so.
DOING WHATEVER WE WANT
SURE IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE EATING THE SWEETS?
Hey girls!
Fix them properly!
Shut up!
That's what they normally look like

I DON'T THINK I'VE DONE ANYTHING ESPECIALLY...?

HUH?

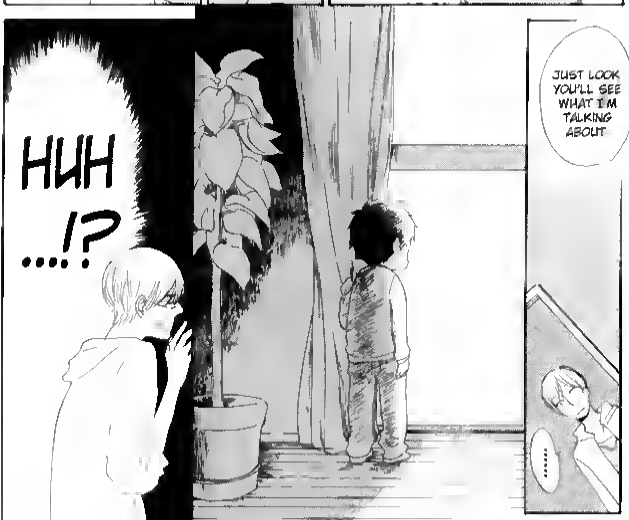
That's annoying.
Meeting?
.....

SHOULDN'T YOU
GIVE HIM A LITTLE MORE ATTENTION?

NOTHING THAT'D MAKE HIM DEPRESSED
HIS BACK LOOKS SO DEJECTED THOUGH...
AK-KUN'S
prior hobby
I haven't have I?

THAT'S TRUE
BUT...
Once upon a time, there was a girl and a boy.
AND, EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT HERE TO PLAY WITH HIM,
HE'S MADE OTHER FRIENDS LATELY
There was another meeting today
UM, BUT...
I GET HOME LATE...

HM.
I GUESS.
AND FOR SOME REASON HE'S BEEN FIRMLY HOLDING ONTO THAT FOR A WHILE NOW...
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE NEEDS ANYBODY ELSE AS LONG AS YOU'RE AROUND DOES IT?


HUH ...!?
JUST LOOK YOU'LL SEE WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
.....

What should I do?
BUT, I REALLY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING DID I?
Right— no need to escape...
THIS TIME I'll school with everyone else...
AM I—
slide
A HORRIBLE HUMAN BEING?
AM I?
WHAT IS THAT?
MY HEART FEELS KINDA...
Ah
EVEN THOUGH I'M SURE I DIDN'T MAKE ANY FAUX PAS THIS TIME
Ah Ah—
WHAT'S WITH THIS FEELING?
AH I SEE NOW HE WAS ENJOYING THE FREEDOM AWAY FROM HIS COUSIN'S PROBLEMS
The sensation of having been stress free
HEY!
WHAT'S WITH THE CORPSE—?
UM
YOU SEE
CAN I GET SOME HELP OVER HERE~
I—
What on earth did I do?

Such indifference
WELL WHATEVER, GO HELP OVER THERE
WHAT, THAT'S IT?
HEY YOU, WIPE THAT DULL LOOK OFF YOUR FACE!
IF YOU KNOW WHY YOUR COUSIN IS IN A FUNK
pissed
BLA-TANT
SUCH
The executive committee member gets more intense the day hui
annoyed
Hmm..
then you can fix it, can't you!?

That's exactly right
OF COURSE
WELL
THAT'S RIGHT BUT
THAT'S RIGHT
I WANT TO BE A BIRD
Huh?
WHY?
dejected

HM?

Ah, I see.
IT'S CLEAR, HE'S-
THAT WAY, AKKUN'S BACK...
IF I WAS A BIRD I WOULD NEVER HAVE SEEN HIS DEJECTED BACK
AH SOMEDAY SOMEHOW
Runn-ing away from reality!

From my point of view!
BUT I THINK THAT'S CUTE!
Not like me
COULD MY COUSIN ACTUALLY BE A HIGH-MAINTENANCE CHILD?
Is he?
.....

WELL, YOU KNOW
IT MUST BE HARD TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THEM

AH...
I knew he'll say that someday
Hah
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM SO EXHAUSTED

I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE WAS AN INDIFFERENT KIND OF GUY.

IT SURPRISED ME.
EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T TALKED TO HIM THAT MUCH,

IT'S GUILT

SERIOUSLY

BUT ANYWAY I'VE SERIOUSLY BEEN GIVING IT MY ALL HERE SO WHY DID THIS KIND OF THING ?
I've been d't gent but 's there even one th ng I've done r ght?
WHAT AM I GONNA DO? WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

FROM AN ANGLE
IT LOOKS LIKE
I'M THE BAD GUY HERE HUH
How thought-provoking...

NOW WHAT?
ALRIGHT AKI TIME TO GO HOME
.....
Kyouko neesan
Oh ho! he ho!
you d dn't
AUNTIE'S HERE
AH
Ah ha ha ha
I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY CANDY TO GIVE HIM
WE WON'T BE IN TOUCH FOR A WHILE EITHER
COME NOW.
DON'T MISBEHAVE JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE FEELING DOWN
YOU DIDN'T FORGET ANYTHING DID YOU?
Is he being a bad b y?
I KNEW IT! HE IS DEPRESSED
DON'T LOOK SO DEPRESSED

OH!
BUT
WHAT NOW
HEY, AKKUN.
G-GOOD EVENING.
At least say you're home!
OKAY
HEISUKE, YOU'RE HERE!
?
AH
glows

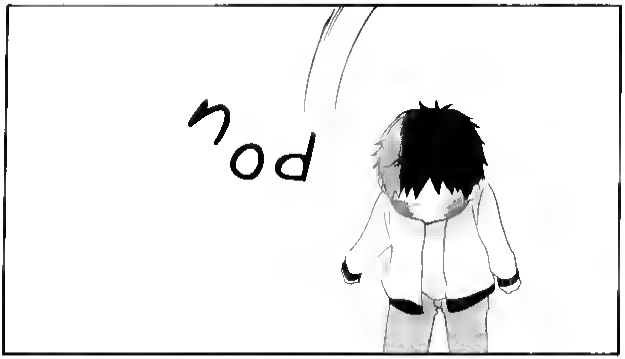
YEAH
I HEAR YOU'RE BUSY PREPARING FOR YOUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL?
.....

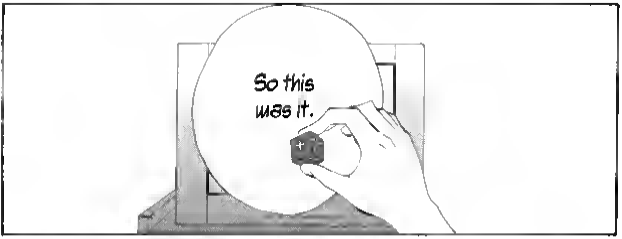
Does it matter? You're just there to browse anyway
Speaking of which is it?
sweat
sweat
quickly
quickly

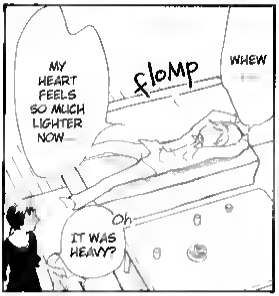
YEAH, SURE
SHOULD WE COME AND SEE?

nudge
HM?
HEL-SUKE

HE COULDN'T HAND IT TO YOU THIS WHOLE TIME
Since you haven't been at home
EH?
A CARA-MEL
open
Shy
Shy
Shy
Shy
Shy
THEN
.....
I'LL EAT IT WITH PLEASURE
THANKS!


nod


So this was it.


MY HEART FEELS SO MUCH LIGHTER NOW—
flomp
WHEW
Oh— IT WAS HEAVY?

ARE YOU GOING TO EAT DINNER SOON?
—Or are you taking a bath?
MOREOVER, AKKUN MADE THIS ONE PROFOUND ITEM.
YEAH

HE GOT SO HAPPY FROM JUST A "GOOD EVENING"
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? AS SOON AS YOU GAVE HIM SOME ATTENTION
GUESS I DODGED THAT BULLET
PRETTY EASILY...

Aha ha..

Did you say bye bye to Auntie?
nod
IT WOULD'VE BEEN GREAT IF I COULD HAVE HUNG OUT WITH HIM.
HIS VOICE...

THANK GOD IT WAS ONLY THAT.

DON'T SAY THAT TO AKKUN
But he wants to give it to you.
I STILL WOULD'VE EATEN IT IF HE HAD LEFT IT BEHIND...
CHILDREN ARE SO TIRING
mumble

LIKE I WOULD

YOU LOOK
RE-FRESHED
BUT YESTER-DAY...
SU-ZUKI.
MOR-NING!
OH, MOR-NING
YEAH...
SOME-HOW... I MA-NAGED
YEAH, WELL...
HM...
SO? WHOSE FAULT WAS IT?
LIM...
IT WAS YOURS!

What about your group?
INCIDENTALLY, THE PARFAIT GROUP WORKED OUT TOO
LIAR.
WELL AS LONG AS IT ALL WORKED OUT IN THE END
DIDN'T YOU MAKE STUPID PARFAITS!?
THE POINT IS, THAT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER DEFENDED IT.
THAT INTENSE GIRL DID WHAT?
HEY YOU GUYS,
GOOD MORNING!

YOU KNOW,
Who would've thought
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D ACTUALLY COME TO THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL
IT'S FINE ISN'T IT?
BESIDES, IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU ACTUALLY BEHAVING LIKE A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
Just checking out the sights
MORE IMPORTANTLY I WANTED TO COME YOU KNOW?
BY THE WAY HEISUKE,
Well I don't really mind but...
LOOK AFTER AKKUN FOR ME WOULD YOU?
Just for a little while.
The trailers area is so crowded you know

flat;glimpse of the other

Aumm man...
Time to change shifts!
Okay!

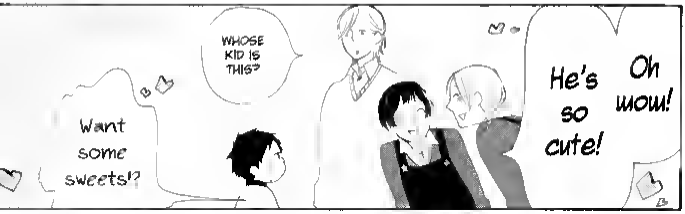
WHAT? YOU TOO KOTA-ROU?
Everyone's making a fuss over h.m...huh
WELL...
SINCE THERE'S NOBODY ELSE...

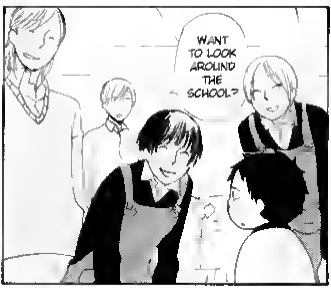
Hello
.....

I wanted to look at all the snack booths
I really really don't wanna
Stagger
I'LL TAKE HIM!
My shift is over so I wanna explore...
AH
HEY, OVER HERE!

EVEN THOUGH AKI IS AN OBEDIENT CHILD
YOU STILL HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE OUT...
AND...
PEOPLE ARE RUSHING AROUND EVERYWHERE SO YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO TAKE HIM WITH YOU
Hey!
What time are you coming back?
I forgot to ask

YOU'D BE HANGING AROUND HERE THE WHOLE TIME THOUGH NOT THAT IT'S A BAD THING
HM
A part-time print
Here
YOUR SHIFT IS ALREADY OVER ANYWAY
WHY NOT TAKE IT EASY AND TAKE A LOOK AROUND?
.....
WHERE?
THERE'S A PLACE YOU'LL LIKE NEARBY
A
AKI
HEY!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?


WHOSE KID IS THIS?
Want some sweets!?
He's so cute!
Oh wow!


WANT TO LOOK AROUND THE SCHOOL?

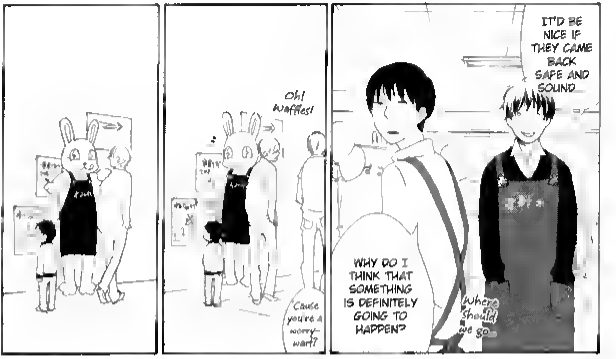
HEY, AK-KUN!
Play with big sis!

Look, Sis! This one's cute!
Here, have some!
Come!
Come!

brighten

nod
MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T GET LOST!
STICK TO ME, ALRIGHT AKKUN?

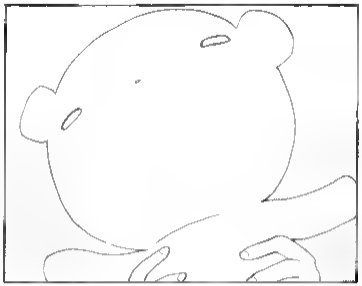
nod
ONLY UNTIL MOM COMES BACK
IT WON'T BE LONG


Oh! Waffles!
Cause you're a worry-wart!
IT'D BE NICE IF THEY CAME BACK SAFE AND SOUND...
WHY DO I THINK THAT SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY GOING TO HAPPEN?
Where should we go...

IF YOU DID, HE'D DO IT FOR SURE...
The rabbit is helping him...
probably
HE'S ALWAYS CAUSING TROUBLE...
Ah ha!
HE DOESN'T GET IT UNLESS YOU KEEP TELLING HIM
HOLD HIS HAND
SAME OLD SAME OLD...
guy

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO CARE ABOUT.
WHETHER OR NOT IT'S A NECESSITY TO
HOLD HANDS WHEN THEY'RE WALKING OR WHEN THEY'RE NOT.
Things like that...
YEAH

Ring Toss
Classroom 2-B
Pinball and other games!
You can win a bear!
Oh no!
Back then...
WELL, HE HAS LET GO OF HIM AND TOTTERED OFF BEFORE...
HE ENDED UP TAKING CARE OF HIM THOUGH?
I sense trouble!
ERRR...
THAT'S NOT GONNA WORK ON HIS DEJECTED AURA
I I'm Sorry
You couldn't get a prize Sorry...
わな
WHAT A SHAME! YOU DIDN'T GET MR BEAR
HERE YOU GO, EAT THIS!
IF YOU GET THE BEAR YOU'LL LOOK REALLY COOL!
AND IF I DON'T GET IT WON'T HE BE TWICE AS DEPRESSED?
As a big brother
WHY DON'T YOU TRY?
NO, I-
Hm?

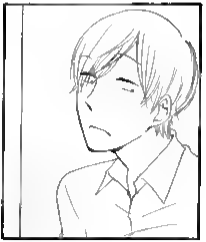


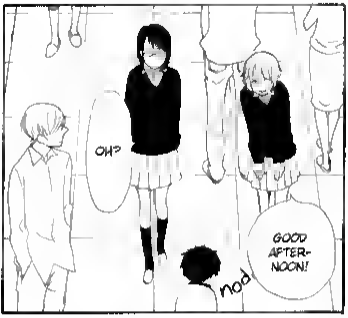
I'll make it easier for you
No thanks.

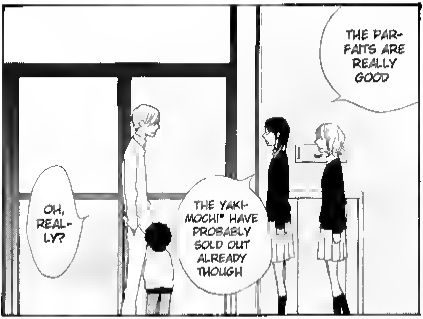
I'm doing you a favor here!
Come on! Come on! Come on! Come on!

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS
HE'S SUPER HAPPY
Prince and Guard
You're you.
THAT BOY IS YOUR COUSIN, RIGHT?

It was very simple
THANK GOD HE REALLY MADE IT EASIER



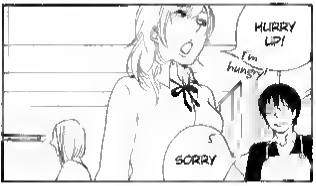


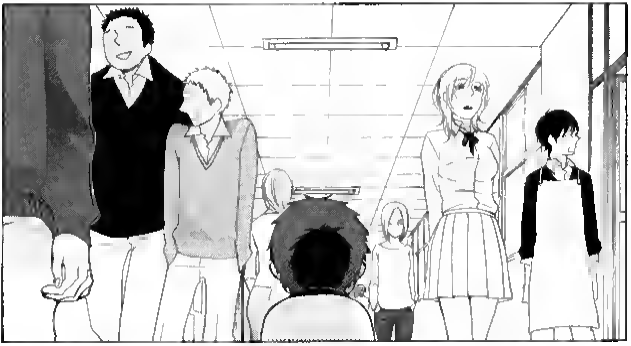


*Grilled rice cakes

VERY TRUE!
AH HA HA!
GETTING PRAISED ISN'T BAD EITHER
He he he!
OH...
al one
Oh my, the mood's really good!
Geh he he he!

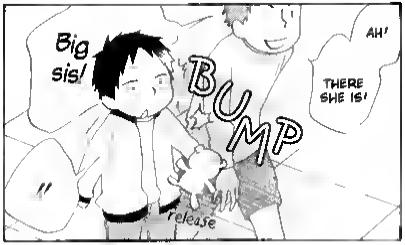
WASN'T HE AN IDIOT?
THAT GUY BACK THERE DRESSED LIKE A NINJA...


HURRY UP!
I'm hungry!
SORRY



.....

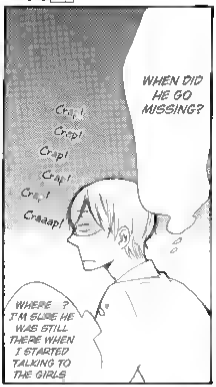
THUD

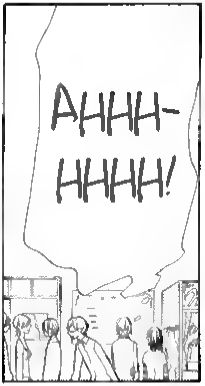

Big sis!
BUMP
AH!
THERE SHE IS!
Release

!!
Slide
Parents should be careful too!
kick
DON'T RUN,
IT'S DANGER-OUS
bounce
bounce
bounce
!
bounce
kick
!!

gr ab
Ah.
Phew...
HEY,
HEY
WHERE'S YOUR COUSIN?

vrr vrr vrr vrr
MY COUSIN IS MISSING IF YOU FIND HIM PLEASE CONTACT ME
It's not time to change shifts yet!
I KNEW, BUT STILL!
I KNEW YOU WOULD BUT STILL!
EVEN THOUGH I TOLD YOU NOT TO LOSE HIM
DIDN'T YOU?
YOU JUST HAD TO DO IT,
I KNEW IT!


WHEN DID HE GO MISSING?
Crap!
Crap!
Crap!
Crap!
Crap!
Crap!
Craaap!
WHERE...? I'M SURE HE WAS STILL THERE WHEN I STARTED TALKING TO THE GIRLS


AHHH-HHHH!

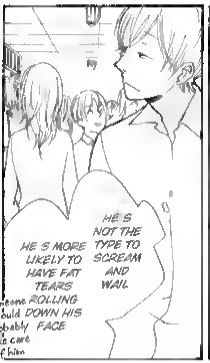
DIDN'T YOU SEE THIS COMING?
MY HOPES ARE RUINED!

Ah...!

I'M DONE FOR!
He's gonna kill me too!

To look after him?
Didn't I tell you
glare

I'll find him eventually
Right...?


HE'S NOT THE TYPE TO SCREAM AND WAIL
HE'S MORE LIKELY TO HAVE FAT TEARS ROLLING DOWN HIS FACE
Someone should probably take care of him

IT'S GOTTEN PRETTY CROWDED
Wasn't I just here before?

I HAVE TO HURRY UP AND FIND HIM
Hot
Hot
.....
.....

You can do anything!
Become our Protector!
KOTA
YOU'RE AMAZING AKI!
As expected of my storm brother!
YOU COMPLETED THE MISSION PERFECTLY!
A man's got to be strong!
Ah!
squeeze
beam
HESUKE
!

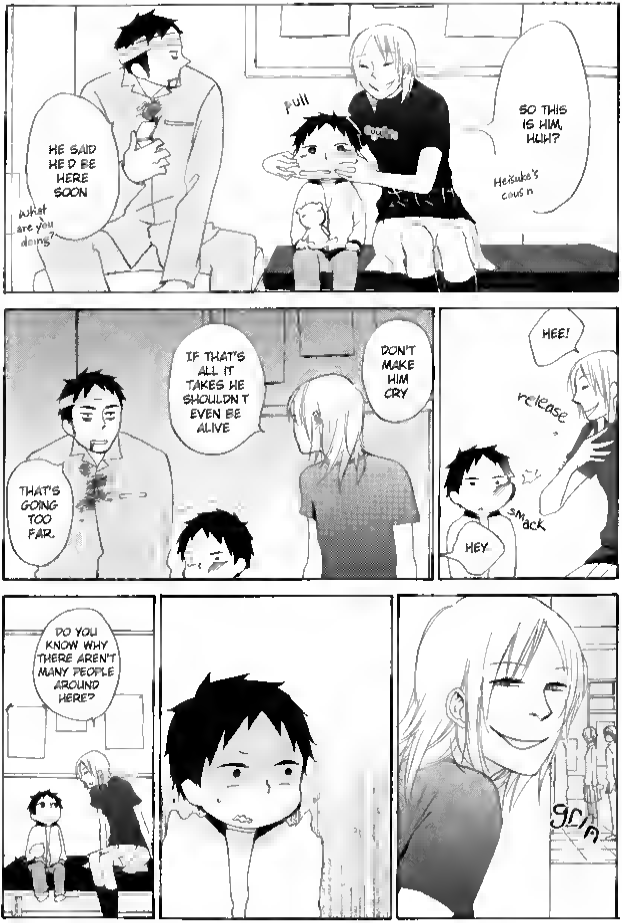
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH THIS KID?
HM, THAT BEAR'S ALL DIRTY, ISN'T IT?
LAST MONTH!
SURE HE'S NOT YOUR KID?
WHEN WAS HE BORN?
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS!
Like I picked a fight with him or something
Why's he making a face like that?
HUH?
HE'S PROBABLY WITH SOMEONE AROUND HERE
depress
BETTER HURRY BACK TO YOUR MOM, KID.
THERE'S NOTHING INTERESTING AROUND HERE

trot
trot
STICK TO ME, ALRIGHT AKKUN?
Wouldn't you be lonely?

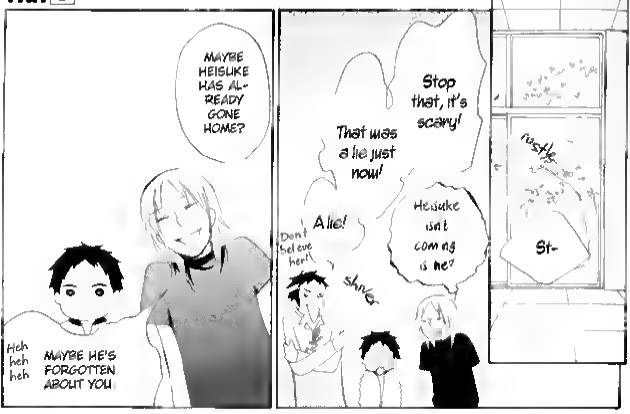
HE'S ALL ALONE
おばけ
IF YOU DIDN'T GO SEE YOUR SENPAI AT LEAST ONCE?
what do you mean?
I WOULDN'T GO IF I WERE A KOUHAI.
To your haunted house or whatever...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
.....
.....
ARE YOU LOST?
NOT SO LOUD!
.....
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOING TO CRY!
Seems likely
HE-SUKE...

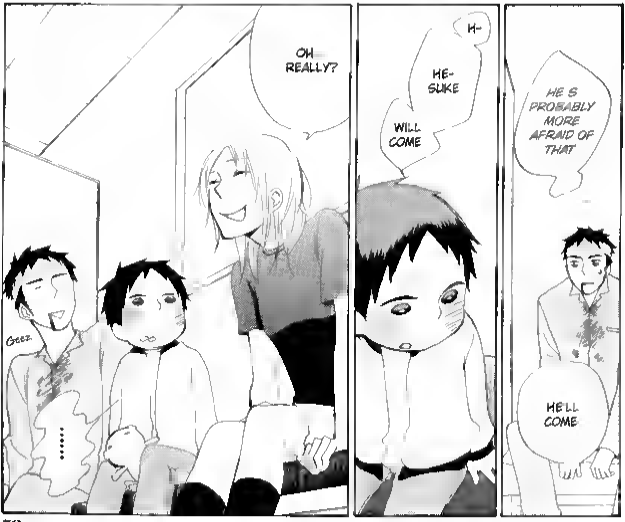
HEISUKE? DOES HE MEAN THAT HEISUKE?
HOW INTEREST-ING
MENACING
I GOT HIS MAIL
REALLY?
He- Heisukeeeeeeeeeee!
Yes, alright, alright
I'll call him now, okay?
Okay?
I'D BET-TER
GO TO THE BROAD-CASTING ROOM
He's not here
Ah.
stagger
Where on Earth did he go..?
He's
BUMP
WH-

hmm
ME TOO
I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION
IT'S FINE
OH,
EXCUSE ME
OOPS.
A MESSAGE
squish
squish
squish
poke
poke
poke
poke


HE SAID HE'D BE HERE SOON
What are you doing?
Pull
SO THIS IS HIM, HUH?
Hercules's cousin
THAT'S GOING TOO FAR.
IF THAT'S ALL IT TAKES HE SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ALIVE
DON'T MAKE HIM CRY
HEE!
release
smack
HEY
DO YOU KNOW WHY THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE AROUND HERE?
grin

IF YOU GO IN THAT CORRIDOR ALONE
YOU MIGHT NOT GET OUT AGAIN
LOOK, OVER THERE
DARK, ISN'T IT?
NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU WALK OR HOW FAST YOU RUN, THE FURTHER DOWN THE CORRIDOR YOU GO THE DARKER IT BECOMES.
YOU KEEP THINKING, "ISN'T THAT THE EXIT JUST AHEAD?" BUT YOU NEVER SEEM TO REACH IT.
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT YOU'VE BEEN GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES.
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE YOU ARE ANYMORE.
YOU'LL NEVER RETURN
THEY SAY BOTH CHILDREN AND STUDENTS ALIKE
HAVE SIMPLY
VANISH
OH DEAR
HEISUKE SURE IS LATE, ISN'T HE?

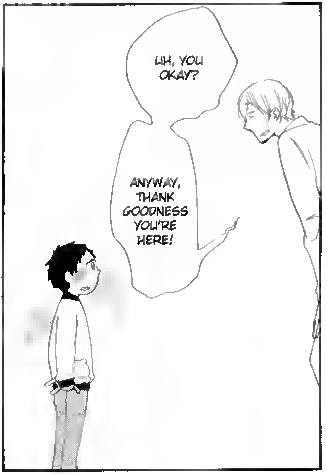

MAYBE HEISUKE HAS ALREADY GONE HOME?
Heh heh heh
MAYBE HE'S FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU.
Stop that, it's scary!
That was a lie just now!
A lie!
Don't believe her!
shiver
Heisuke isn't coming is he?
rustle
St-

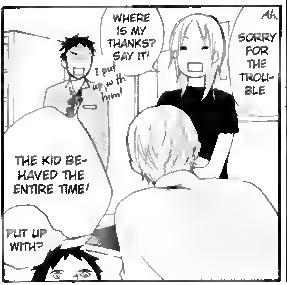

OH... REALLY?
Geez
.....
H-
HE-SUKE
WILL COME
HE'S PROBABLY MORE AFRAID OF THAT
HE'LL COME

I'M GLAD THEY FOUND HIM BUT,
NOW HE'S WITH SEN-PAI

.....

THANK GOODNESS IT ENDED WITHOUT ME GETTING HIT.....
mutter
Like a careless delinquent
chew!
HEY YOU


UH, YOU OKAY?
ANYWAY, THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE!


WHERE IS MY THANKS? SAY IT!
I put up with him!
Ah, SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE
THE KID BEHAVED THE ENTIRE TIME!
PUT UP WITH?

TO PUT IT BLUNTLY,
IT WAS INTEREST-ING
...IS THAT SO?
mutter
IT WAS A COMPLETE NUISANCE
I'M SORRY, AKKUN
Um,
IT WAS MY FAULT
YET AGAIN, I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH
Typical me.
You think that's enough?
Smooth
Smooth
It's over somehow
HEY

I-
I...
WAN-
DERED
OFF
MY
FAULT
I-
I'm
really
sorry
He's
blaming
himself...
He...
NOW WHAT
AM I SUP-
POSED
TO SAY...?
Oh
maaaan
WHY DID
IT TURN
OUT LIKE
THIS?

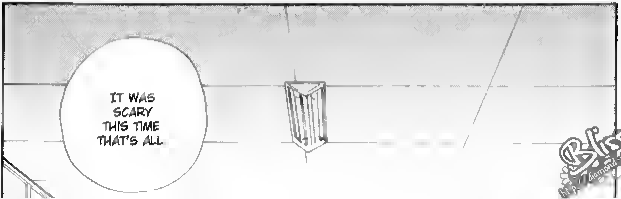
.....
I'M SORRY.
.....
Dejected
IT WAS MY FAULT
OH, NO
.....
I CAN'T REALLY TELL EITHER WAY, SO...
YEAH
WELL THEN...

WE WERE BOTH WRONG
TODAY, LET'S SAY
HOW WAS THAT?
I nod
NO GOOD?
Ah...
HAVING A ROUGH TIME ARE YOU?
Ah... ha... ha!
This is great!
AND TODAY HE GOT LOST WHEN I WAS TALKING TO SOMEONE
Because I was preparing for the school festival
BEFORE THIS HE WAS DEPRESSED BECAUSE WE WEREN'T ABLE TO MEET FOR A WHILE
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE PHRASED IT A LITTLE BETTER?

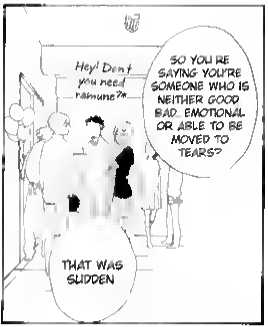
WELL, I GUESS I DID BUT
WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT I SOUND LIKE A BAD PERSON
YOU FORGOT ABOUT HIM, DIDN'T YOU?

NAH
I DEFINITELY DID
Ah ha ha
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO SAY THAT
BUT I'M ONLY HUMAN

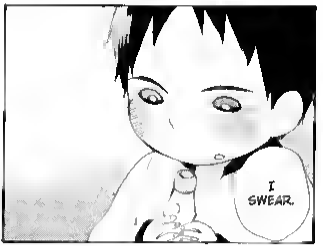
I'M BEING BLUNT!
DON'T YOU THINK YOU DID SOME THING WRONG?


IT WAS SCARY THIS TIME THAT'S ALL

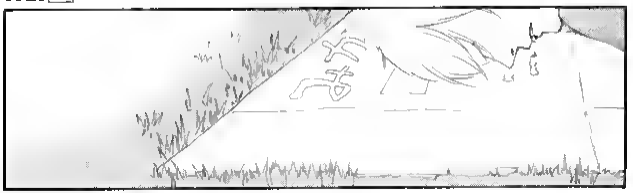
LOOKING UP AT THE CEILING BACK THERE...
FOR SOME REASON.
WELL IT WAS ONLY A THOUGHT.
Like a normal person!
SO YOU DO HAVE THOSE KINDS OF FEELINGS!

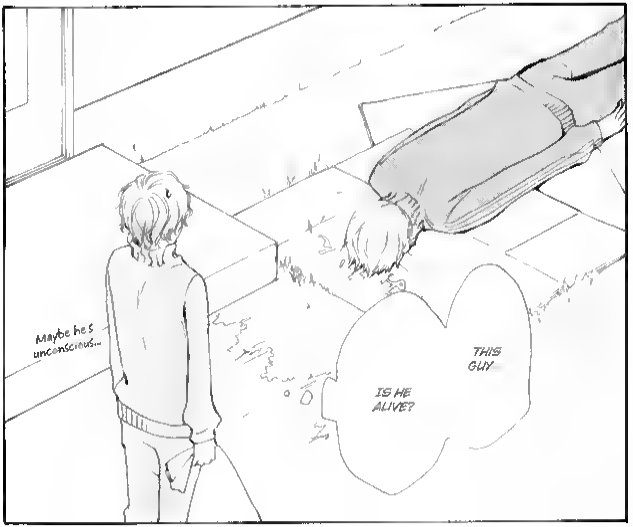

Hey! Don't you need ramune?*
SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE SOMEONE WHO IS NEITHER GOOD BAD, EMOTIONAL OR ABLE TO BE MOVED TO TEARS?
THAT WAS SUDDEN

*A carbonated drink popular in Japan.

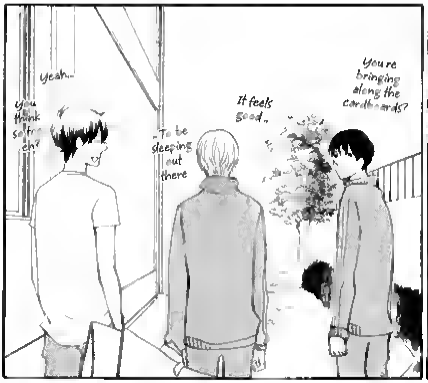


HM...
NO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THAT'S A NICE THOUGHT THOUGH
RATHER THAN HAVING ME DO SOMETHING
I THINK IT'S BEST TO GET AKKUN BACK ON HIS FEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
THAT'S FINE ISN'T IT?
Ah ha ha



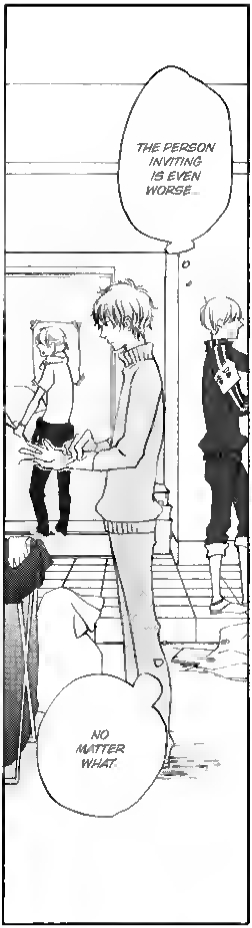

Maybe he's unconscious...
THIS GUY...
IS HE ALIVE?

IT'S NOT OKAY!
HUH?
Okay
Dozed off
THE NERVE OF YOU TO BE RESTING HERE ALONE
Ah! Bastard!
Don't sleep at this kind of place!
PLAYING HOOKY HUH?
FIVE MORE MINUTES.
COME ON, YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR CLEANING AS WELL!
NO I DON'T HAVE ANY REGRETS FROM THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL
I guess I have no choice
COMING?
AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?
WELL,
IT DOESN'T MATTER I HAVE SOMETHING GOOD HERE
WELL,
JUST WHERE DID YOU TAKE THAT OUT FROM?
Wouldn't it get squished?


Yeah...
You think so?
To be sleeping out there
It feels good...
You're bringing along the cardboards?
RESTING?
ME, TOO!
ME, TOO!

Somehow...
It feels so calm right?
That's right
Hm.

WHEN YOU FIND OUT SUCH A THING, SHOULDN'T YOU CARE MORE AND FORCE HIM BACK TO WORK?
If you call yourself a friend
Recyclables over here!
THAT'S NOT ADMIRABLE


THE PERSON INVITING IS EVEN WORSE...
NO MATTER WHAT

I JUST CAN'T LIKE THAT KIND OF PERSON

flat;skew lines 1

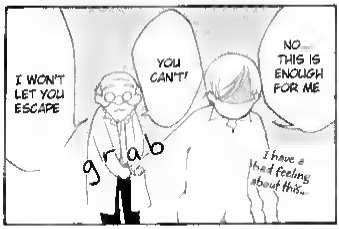
TODAY IS THE DEADLINE FOR THE QUESTIONNAIRE
1-A
THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SUBMITTED YET PLEASE DO SO NOW
chatter
chatter
Even listening to me
Is anyone...
I'M SORRY
THERE'S BOUND TO BE A FEW SLACKERS IN A CLASS
NO
I SEE.
YOU COULDN'T COLLECT THEM
I'LL COLLECT THEM AGAIN TOMORROW
.....
I THINK IT'S TOO LATE TO COLLECT THEM NOW
With the festival and all going on

KAIDOU-KUN, YOU'RE SUCH A SERIOUS PERSON
?
IS THAT BAD?
EH? IT'S GREAT
REALLY GREAT!
IT'S JUST THAT IF YOU STRAIN YOURSELF TOO MUCH YOU'LL GET TIRED
NOT REALLY
I WANTED TO SAY THAT STRAIGHT FORWARDLY BUT—
Ah. Shu-de
I'm not straining myself It's normal for me
Please excuse me.
drag
drag
drag
drag
dr
AS

I'M CALLING YOU!
pant
pant
CAN YOU HELP ME!?
EH? AH
YES!?
HUH!?
drag
drag
YOU
HEY, YOU!
HEY,
SORRY, KAY?
It's fine
I LENT THIS TO THE THIRD YEARS FOR THEIR HAUNTED HOUSE
For the School Festival
CARRYING THIS ALONE IS REALLY TOUGH
OH, A HAUNTED HOUSE...
GRAB THAT PART
drag
THIS IS TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY ALONE...
How did he make it this far?
UM...
But where do you want me to...?
ALRIGHT. I'M COUNTING ON YOU!

Didn't he just say how heavy it is to carry this thing alone!?
MY HIPS HURT
Huh!?
Sensei you're not gonna help?
Eh, I don't want to.
it could be quite impossible for you alone..
OH YEAH
HM
CAN I DO THIS BY MYSELF!?
clench
NO
NO!
I SHOULDN'T LET AN ELDERLY PUSH HIMSELF
grin
HM?

SEN-SEI
IS HE REALLY AL-RIGHT?
I only have you
sob
EH?
No!
No!
No!
No!
No!
I DON'T EVEN NEED THAT!
I'LL GIVE YOU MY TREA-SURE!
MY PILLS TOO!
tap
tap
tap
My, my, my, I'm so busy
No, no, no! It won't take long
THAT GUY
WELL THEN, I'LL BE GOING NOW
SO HE DOES HELP OUT A BIT
AH ITS FINE.
JUST LEAVE IT AROUND HERE
THANKS
GOOD
GOOD


I WON'T LET YOU ESCAPE
YOU CAN'T!
NO... THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME
grab
I have a bad feeling about this...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED YET
EH!?

BOTH OF YOU
I don't want to, but I've no choice now...
Ah...
YOU'RE COMING, RIGHT?

EVERYONE'S BEEN PESTERING ME TO TAKE EVERYTHING BACK
I WANT YOU TO SIMPLY PACK EVERYTHING INTO THE BOXES
Aww!
EH?

OH MY...
Why the hell does he have this kind of things!?
THESE ARE ALL HIS!?

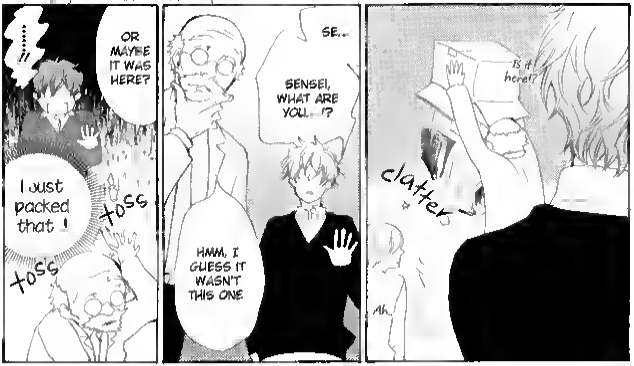
TIDYING UP, HUH?

NO, IT'S ALRIGHT
Ah! I also have a Tsuchinoko* would you like to see?
I have some very interesting things even Yoshitsune's * fortune that was found in Mongolia
I SEE...
SINCE THERE ARE SO MANY, THEY JUST PILED UP HERE
I WANTED TO SHOW THESE TO THE STUDENTS AS WELL
I LENT THESE FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL

*Yoshitsune Yoshitsune Minamoto is a famous samurai warrior during the late Heian period. Legend has it that he did not die during the war but escaped to Mongolia

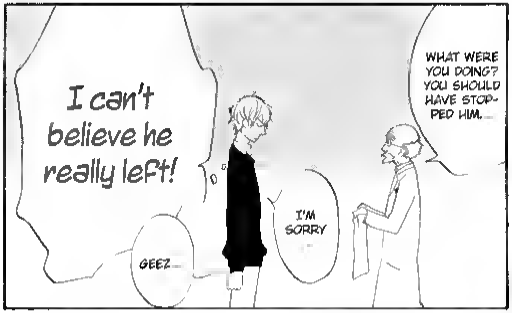
IT'S FINE YOU DON'T HAVE TO
I PROMISED TO GIVE YOU A TREASURE DIDN'T I? NOW WHERE COULD IT BE?
IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO GO BACK LATE TODAY
THIS LOOKS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE THREE OF US TO FINISH
BUT MAN EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE JUST STARTED

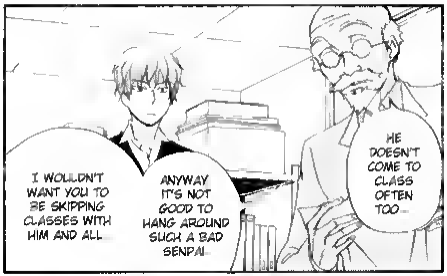
*Tsuchinoko: mythical snake like creature from Japan

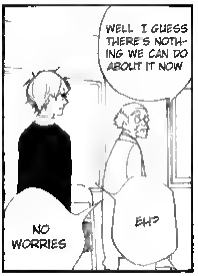


Does this guy have any will to clean up!?
HANG ON, I'LL GO LOOK
.....
AH! IT COULD BE THERE!
EXCUSE ME
THESE BELONG TO SENSEI! SO SHOULDN'T YOU TREAT IT MORE CARE FULLY?
I WONDER IF I SHOULD GO BACK NOW WHILE I CAN.
ALRIGHT
WA...
WAIT A MINUTE! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP!?
We're talking about sense right? THAT?
I THINK HE'LL FIND A RE-PLACEMENT ANYWAY

I THINK NOW'S OUR ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE
I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT!
WELL, I'LL GET CAUGHT BY SENSEI AGAIN
BUT...
YOU CAN'T JUST LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING A WORD!
SENPAI!
WELL, WHY DON'T YOU?
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST TELL HIM...
close
UNBELIEVABLE...


I can't believe he really left!
GEEZ...
I'M SORRY...
WHAT WERE YOU DOING? YOU SHOULD HAVE STOPPED HIM...
HUH!?
HE WENT BACK!?


I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO BE SKIPPING CLASSES WITH HIM AND ALL...
ANYWAY IT'S NOT GOOD TO HANG AROUND SUCH A BAD SENPAI...
HE DOESN'T COME TO CLASS OFTEN TOO...

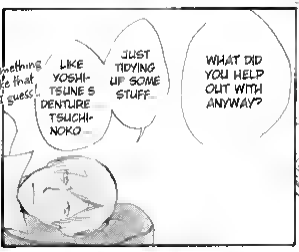

WELL I GUESS THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW
NO WORRIES
EH?

Oh, that sounds good!
Let's go up to the roof!

Treating me like an outcast...

HE'S EXACTLY WHAT I THOUGHT HE WOULD BE
YOU CAN GO BACK NOW

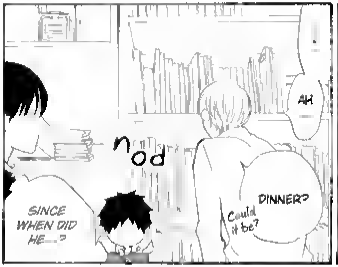
I've kept your bag.
Yano
THIS IS BAD.


Something like that I guess.
LIKE YOSHI-TSUNE'S DENTURE TSUCHI-NOKO...
JUST TIDYING UP SOME STUFF.
WHAT DID YOU HELP OUT WITH ANYWAY?

THE LIMITED EDITION TART IS SOLD OUT.
AND I WAS STOPPED BY SO MANY RED LIGHTS,
EVEN MY SHOELACE GOT TORN
IT'S NICE OF HIM TO LEAVE YOU A TREASURE, THOUGH...

That's a weird lineup
AH HA HA
YEAH.
HUH!?
TSUCHI-NOKOO!?

To think there was a teacher-maker...
HAA.
I don't feel good


AH
nod
DINNER?
Could it be?
SINCE WHEN DID HE...?

.....

YOU IDIOT, STOP RUNNING!
stare
IT'S AUNTY'S COOKING!

WELL THEN I GUESS WE'LL GO
WHY DON'T YOU STAY FOR DINNER?
It's already prepared for anyway
YAY!

WHAT'S WRONG?
HE-SUKE
.....
NOT WELL?
SO HE HEARD.
NO... IT'S NOTHING
IT'S AL-RIGHT, IT'S AL-RIGHT
.....
.....
NOW COME, LET'S GO EAT.
AKKUN'S ALWAYS TAKING IN ALL HIS THOUGHTS SERIOUSLY. ISN'T HE?

.....
WHAT'S WITH THE SILENCE!?
WELL, I AM A LITTLE CURIOUS TO SEE IT ANYWAY
SORRY TO BARGE IN!
EH? JIJI-SENSEI ISN'T HERE.
Open
I WONDER IF THEY WERE REAL...
THERE'S NO WAY!
PROBABLY
Where's the Tsuchinoko?
THAT'S THE GUY WHO SKIPPED WITH HIM
YOU RAN AWAY YESTERDAY, BUT YOU CAME HERE ON YOUR OWN TODAY?
WELL
HAHA
It's not like I like to come here or anything

Hey
JUST HOW MUCH OF THESE THINGS BELONG TO THE OLD MAN?
NO IDEA
AH, OKAY SORRY
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HELP COULD YOU PLEASE LEAVE?
LET'S JUST END THIS QUICKLY
CLOW
WELL, I ONLY CAME HERE TO TAKE MY BELONG-INGS
WHY DON'T YOU HELP OUT?
JUST WHERE DID YOU GET THAT CHAIR FROM?
THIS GUY... MAYBE HE'S ACTUALLY MORE NORMAL...?
IT'S NOTHING
YOU OKAY?
!!
WHY IS THERE SUCH ROUGH SAND-PAPER IN THIS KIND OF PLACE!?

.....
rustle
rustle
HEY...
HEY!
HERE, THIS ONE IS YOURS
smack
OW!
HERE YOU GO
drop
YOU WENT TO BORROW WORK GLOVES?
YEAH.
So can you help out too?

IT'S NOT THAT KIND OF PROBLEM!
WELL, I HAVE MY WALLET AND MY HANDPHONE...
YOU REALLY HAVE NO SENSE OF ATTACHMENT, DON'T YOU?
I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT MY STUFF ANYMORE.
I'm going back
IF YOU LOSE SOMETHING, BUT ONLY REALIZE ITS IMPORTANCE LATER, IT WILL BE TOO LATE RIGHT?
FROZEN
WELL...
HE'S A REALLY GOOD GUY
THIS GUY

!!

WELL THEN, SUZUKI WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THE BAG FOR ME?
YOU DON'T BOTHER TO HIDE THAT "IT'S SO TROUBLESOME SO DO IT FOR ME" FEELING DON'T YOU?

HOW DID HE COME UP WITH A REPLY LIKE THAT? WHY
DIDN'T THAT GUY HEAR WHAT HE JUST SAID!?
Let me go! Hey, Sho-shi!
You're going back after seeing the Tsuchinoko right?

I...
STOP LAUGHING! PAY ATTENTION!
smack
SNEAK ATTACK!

AH HA HA

WHY ON EARTH WOULD SUCH A GOOD GUY LIKE HIM HANG OUT WITH THIS GUY!?
I'M NOT THAT INTERESTED IN IT YOU KNOW?

I don't get it!
IN THE END, ONLY THE TWO OF US FINISHED THE TASK
HE WON'T EVEN MOVE
WHEN THERE'S A CHANCE HE WOULD JUST TRY TO ESCAPE
Now
Now
AND HE'S SUCH AN EASYGOING PERSON
HE TAKES HIS OWN SWEET TIME WALKING
8 25
HE'S IRRESPONSIBLE
D'nner's ready!
Why?
HE DOESN'T EVEN FEEL GUILTY
HE DOES THINGS HIS OWN WAY
AND HE IS ALWAYS HELPED BY OTHERS
Run, Heisuke!
DASH!
Hurry up!
Ah

Okay then Spin around three times while barking
Demon! You're a demon!
AND HE'S TOTALLY NOT SINCERE
Suzuka-kun, let me see your homework
Me too!
Me too!
Huh?
AND HE KEEPS ASKING TO SEE OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMEWORK.
IT'S REALLY LONELY, RIGHT?
yeah him
HEI-SUKE-SAN?
...uh what's his name again?
Why?
Hey...
I haven't seen him around lately... have you?
Why that guy?

THEN, HE SAID WHAT A SHAME-FUL GIRL SHE WAS
UNCLE DID?
YUP, YUP.
hustle
I WONDER WHO THAT IS AN ACQUAIN-TANCE?
Oh?
This here... this is a picture Ak drew

Felt like I should pat him
Woah.
.....

EVEN THOUGH RECESS IS OVER...
AH... HELLO...
UM... NAME...
CLASS IS STARTING ALREADY... YOU KNOW?
.....
ARE YOU PLANNING TO SKIP CLASS AGAIN?
knock knock
what's his name again?

Click
!!!
knock
knock
knock
knock
SORRY
PLEASE KEEP QUIET.
Sorry about that
THIS IS QUITE A GOOD PLACE
SO IF PEOPLE KNEW ABOUT IT, I'LL BE QUITE SAD
step step step
Mmph!
MFFF Whh!!!
I WONDER IF THE TEACHER HAS ALREADY LEFT?
You amaze me!
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO WORRIED.
I was told by a senpai
WELL, IT CAN BE OPENED FROM THIS SIDE

YESTERDAY... WELL, I SAW YOU
OH
IT'S NOT THAT I LIKE CHILDREN
HUH?
DO YOU LIKE CHILDREN?
IT SEEMS TO ME THAT HE LIKES YOU VERY MUCH THOUGH
WELL, I DO THINK HE'S CUTE
I USED TO FEEL THAT WAS GOOD ENOUGH
BUT I REALIZED THAT THAT'S NOT THE WAY...
TO LIKE SOMEONE... IT'S A REALLY BIG DEAL...

THERE'S A WEIGHT TO HUMAN FEELINGS?
THAT HEAVY FEELING...
YOU SURE DO LIVE IN LUXURY
HEAVY
LIGHT...
A BIG DEAL HUH...
IT'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD TREASURE MORE.
HOW PRECIOUS?
A PERSON'S FEELING IS?
DON'T YOU KNOW HOW VALUABLE...

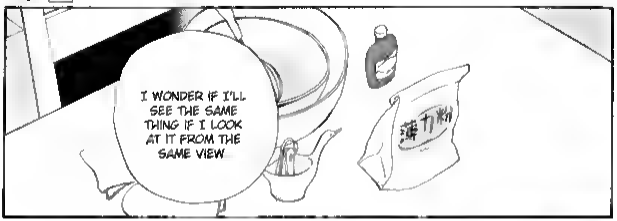
APPARENTLY THERE'S ONE HERE TOO
A PERSON WHO ALWAYS TAKES EVERY THING SO SERIOUSLY
HE'S A HEAVY-WEIGHT
HE.

The sky looks suspicious..
In the end...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

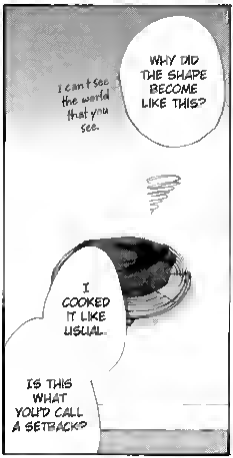
I DO THINK EVERYBODY IS DIFFERENT IN THEIR OWN WAYS
THANKS TO YOU I GUESS
OH YOU'RE SUDDENLY BEING SERIOUS?
I'M GOING BACK TO CLASS
ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?
.....

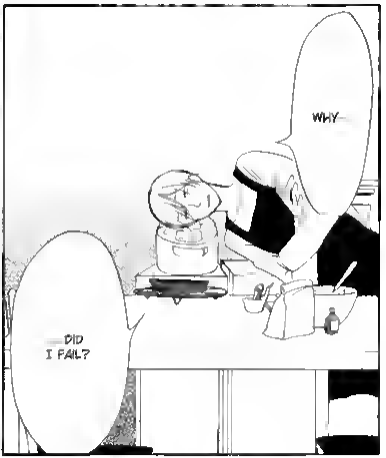
I have no choice...
I'LL CALL FOR HELP
THE LOCK IS BROKEN
UM...
HUH?
twist
twist
SHOOT
YOU KEEP USING YOUR FRIENDS LIKE THAT!
I.
PARDON?

I just can't stand you being like that.


I WONDER IF I'LL SEE THE SAME THING IF I LOOK AT IT FROM THE SAME VIEW.

I DON'T UNDER-STAND
.....


I can't see the world that you see.
WHY DID THE SHAPE BECOME LIKE THIS?
I COOKED IT LIKE USUAL.
IS THIS WHAT YOU'D CALL A SETBACK?


WHY
DID I FAIL?

HAA...
.....
.....
I DON'T THINK IT'S INEDIBLE
What're you gonna do?
THAT'S SUCH A WASTE.
HM...
IT'S NOT MY DAY.
If I think it looks okay, then I'll eat it too.
I'LL TRY TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT AND MAYBE HAVE THE TWO OF THEM EAT IT.

IT'S RARE FOR YOUR BAKING TO FAIL

SATOU, YOU BASTARD DON'T DIP YOUR CHOPSTICKS IN MY PORTION
I KIND OF WONDERED IF I'M BEING CURSED
SEE, HE LIKES IT
TRUE.
BUT THE FLAVOR'S NOT BAD

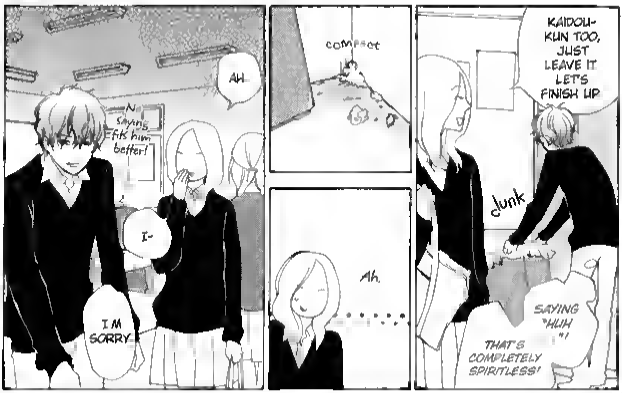
I ALSO FEEL LIKE I'M BEING WATCHED
HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO IGNORE THAT?

YOU DON'T WANT IT Can I have it all? HEISUKE?
THEN I'LL EAT IT
IT FEELS KINDA LIKE MY SHOULDERS ARE HEAVY

A first year?
THAT.

When I look
at that guy,
I get irritated

YOUR WAY OF THINKING MAKES ME SICK
sweep
sweep
sweep
sweep
WHY DO I GET THIS IRRITATED?
HUH?
He should have been more!
sweep
sweep
Like, something!
A reaction!
We should be done with the cleaning soon right?
At least use a more serious expression


AH.
No saying F-fix him better!
I-
I'M SORRY.
compact
Ah.
KAIDOU-KUN TOO, JUST LEAVE IT LET'S FINISH UP
clunk
SAYING "HUH"!
THAT'S COMPLETELY SPIRITLESS!

ugh.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
YOU MERELY DID THE OBVIOUS.
sob sob
NO. IT'S OKAY.

THAT PERSON...
DOES HE EVEN LISTEN TO PEOPLE WHEN THEY TALK?
Is being lazy a crime?
What happened?

THAT KID...
wander
wander
MY WORDS AREN'T GETTING THROUGH
.....
turn
turn
HAA
I DON'T FEEL GOOD

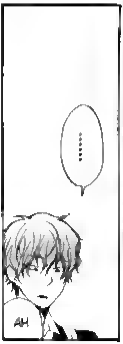
HAPPY?
YEAH!
YEAH! IT'S GREAT THAT I FOUND ONE!
DID YOU KNOW?
A FOUR LEAF CLOVER WILL MAKE YOU FEEL HAPPY.
IF YOU FIND ONE,
THEY SAY SOMETHING GOOD WILL HAPPEN!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
YOU DROPPED SOMETHING?
.....
THIS SIDE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY
FOUR LEAF?
YOU MEAN A FOUR-LEAF CLOVER?
FO-
FOUR LEAF
silence

HEE-SUKE...
HE'S NOT FEELING WELL
SEARCHING BY YOURSELF?
.....
NOT FEELING WELL.
I WONDER IF HE'S EVEN A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER?
I GUESS THAT'S HOW A CHILD THINKS
IS THAT A PROBLEM THAT CAN BE SOLVED BY GIVING HIM A FOUR LEAF CLOVER?
HE'S NICE.
THAT...
He-Suke san you're talking about
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE?

AH!
AH EXCUSE ME
WHAT AM I SAYING TO A KID?
FORGET WHAT I SAID

Aren't you being deceived?


.....
AH

HE EVEN HAS A CHILD THINKING THIS HIGHLY OF HIM

TO THINK HE'D ADORE HIM THIS MUCH WITH HIS PURE HEART
HE'S PURE...

OH YEAH, YOU NEVER DID RETURN THIS

I COMPLETELY FORGOT

I SEE

YOU DON'T NEED TO SEE HEISUKE TODAY?
YES
THAT'S ALL I NEEDED TO DO.

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU COME HERE
SINCE I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE TO RETURN IT

HOW DOES FRIENDSHIP BLOOM?

SENPAI
HM?
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

HOW DID YOU BECOME FRIENDS WITH HIM...?
SENPAI
NO, THAT'S...
HUH!?
UM...
I DON'T KNOW
glance
I'M SORRY, THAT WAS RUDE...
IF THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I'M GONNA GO
UM...
THINGS ARE ONLY TROUBLESOME AROUND HIM.
GOOD GRIEF WHETHER IF IT'S THAT GEEZER OR THIS JUNIOR,
YEAH IT WAS
Th's again...

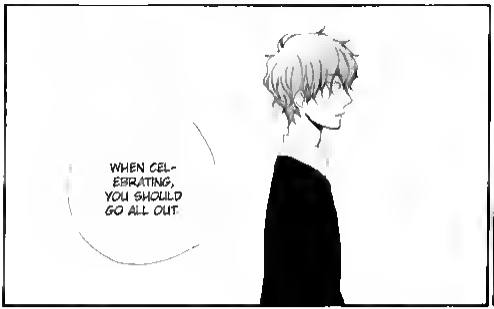
I ALSO WANT TO ASK THOSE OLD GUYS THAT QUESTION TOO
I'M GOING TO THROW THAT QUESTION RIGHT BACK AT YOU
I FEEL LIKE ASKING YOUR FRIENDS THAT QUESTION
OF COURSE HE'D GET MAD
KAIDOU-KUN!
ARE YOU FREE THIS WEEKEND?
I SAID THAT KIND OF THING ABOUT HIS FRIEND
OH, HERE YOU ARE!

WILL THIS TAKE LONG?
AH, IT MIGHT
WE DON'T KNOW YET SINCE EVERYONE'S INDECISIVE...

WHY?
YOU KNOW OUR GROUP FROM THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL?
THERE WAS TALK ABOUT HOLDING A SMALL CELEBRATION TOGETHER.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KAIDOU-KUN?

I DON'T BELIEVE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULD BE OUT LATE AT NIGHT
clearly

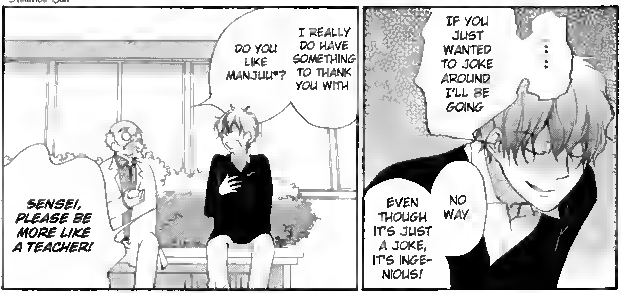
OH, I SEE
I DON'T LIKE MINGLING OR NOISINESS


WHEN CELEBRATING, YOU SHOULD GO ALL OUT

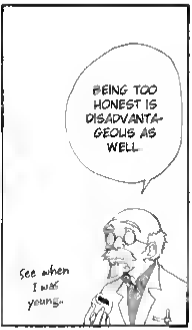
O-Okay then
When we've decided properly
we'll come again.

SEN-SEI!
NO YOU SEE I CAME HERE TO THANK YOU FOR THE HELP EARLIER
DID YOU NEED HELP AGAIN?
WOW.
U FU FU FU
YOU PULLED IT YOU REALLY DID!
AH. THANKS
HERE
SN
AP

*Steamed Bun


DO YOU LIKE MANJUU*?
I REALLY DO HAVE SOMETHING TO THANK YOU WITH
SENSEI, PLEASE BE MORE LIKE A TEACHER!
IF YOU JUST WANTED TO JOKE AROUND I'LL BE GOING
...
NO WAY
EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST A JOKE, IT'S INGE-NIOUS!

I HAVEN'T SAID ANY-THING WRONG
IF YOU'RE TOO SERI-OUS YOU'LL BE HATED LIKE ME.
YOU SURE SEEM HARD TO GET ALONG WITH.
snap
snap
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO MAKE ANY FRIENDS?
FROM HERE ON, I'LL BE ABLE TO
OH, IS THAT SO


BEING TOO HONEST IS DISADVANTAGEOUS AS WELL
See when I was young...

I...

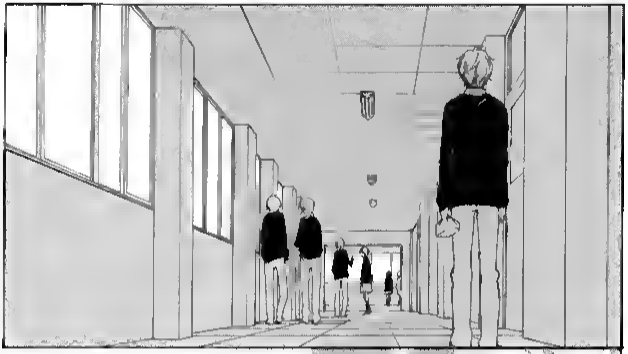
But Im already tired

IS SERIOUSNESS A CRIME?

I just
THEN WHAT'S WITH THE TWO BOTTLES OF MILK IN YOUR LEFT HAND?
WITHOUT THESE YOU'D FEEL BAD RIGHT?

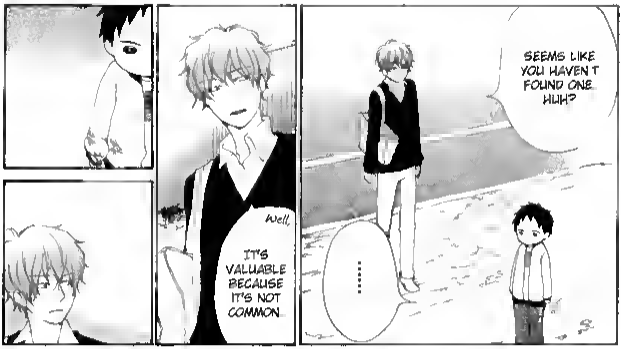
I'M SORRY IT'S MY FAULT THAT WE'RE LATE EATING LUNCH
YOU'RE STUPID IF YOU THINK I WAITED FOR YOU
I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO EAT ALONE

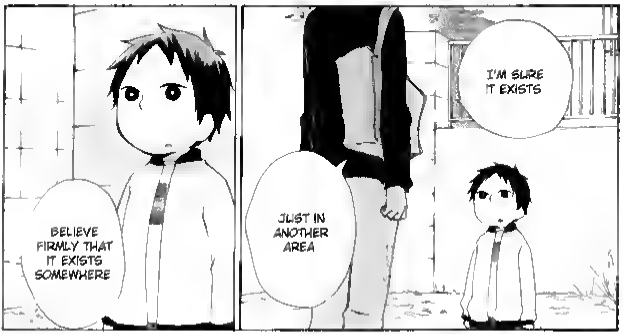
I WORE MYSELF OUT FROM CRYING WITH THE MOVIE I WATCHED YESTERDAY
SERIOUSLY!?
I GUESS I CAN'T LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR RECOMMENDATION?
HURRY LET'S GO
YEAH



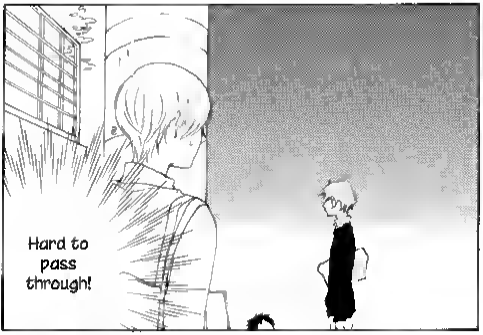
rustle
rustle
\!!

...
HE'S SEARCHING AGAIN?
OH—
HEY

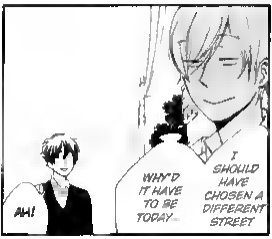

Well,
IT'S VALUABLE BECAUSE IT'S NOT COMMON.
.....
SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T FOUND ONE. HUH?


BELIEVE FIRMLY THAT IT EXISTS SOMEWHERE
JUST IN ANOTHER AREA
I'M SURE IT EXISTS

I WONDER IF I'M WRONG


Hard to pass through!
so

!
SATOU!
HEI-SUKE!
what're you doing?


AH!
WHY'D IT HAVE TO BE TODAY...
I SHOULD HAVE CHOSEN A DIFFERENT STREET

trot
WEL-COME
BACK
trot
AK-KUN
I'M BACK

PROB-ABLY IN MY ROOM
you like it huh?
HE-SUKE!

LEND ME THE NEXT ONE!
OH
MOM'S MANGA
Read it already?
THIS IS FUNNY

I WAS GOING OUTSIDE
I SAID THAT
DID YOU LET PEOPLE BACK HOME KNOW YOU WERE GOING OUT?
Heya!
ARE YOU PLAYING BY YOURSELF AKI-KUN?
That's right
YEAH
RIGHT, HEI-SUKE?
AH
Your clothes are dirty
ON A WALK?
YOU SHOULDN'T GO FAR BY YOURSELF SINCE IT'S DANGEROUS
HE WAS SEARCHING FOR SENPAI'S SAKE

YOU CAME ALL THE WAY TO HIS HOUSE?
stalker
YOU'RE MIS-TAKEN
THIS WAS JUST A COINCI-DENCE
ME?
OH
THE FIRST YEAR WHO CAME TO THE CLASS-ROOM!

IF ANY-THING HAP-PENS, LET ME KNOW, OKAY?
SINCE MY FISTS ARE STILL ITCH-ING TO GO!
OH, HOW RELIEVING

This person too
HEY! FOR A FRIEND'S SAKE THIS MUCH IS NOTHING!
YOU'RE SURE VICIOUS
pat
pat
HEY, THAT VIOLENT THREAT IS A LITTLE
YOU FEEL-ING RE-SENTFUL?

WHY DON'T I HAVE ANY BUT YOU DO?
WHY
HEISUKE, WHAT DO YOU HAVE?
HUH?
UM...
JAM BREAD!
toss
smack
Ugh!
WHA-
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
HE DOESN'T NEED ANY, YET HE HAS A BUNCH.
Ouch
He threw a manjuu at me...
I'M SPEAKING SERIOUSLY HERE!

A-
ATTACK-
ING
IS NOT
GOOD

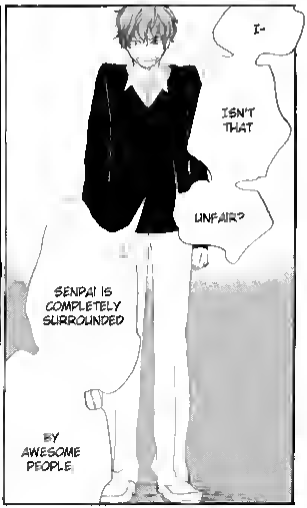
I'm doing
my best,
yet why!?

Wahh!
Maybe
Is this
a curse?
AM I TAKING
THIS KIND OF
ABUSE?
WHY
IN THE
WORLD

Hic.

I...
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR A LONG TIME

Um...
SUZUKI-SAN, SATOU-SAN,
EVEN THE LITTLE BOY

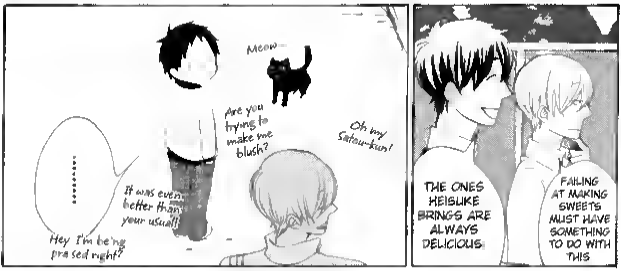

I-
ISN'T THAT UNFAIR?
SENPAI IS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED
BY AWESOME PEOPLE

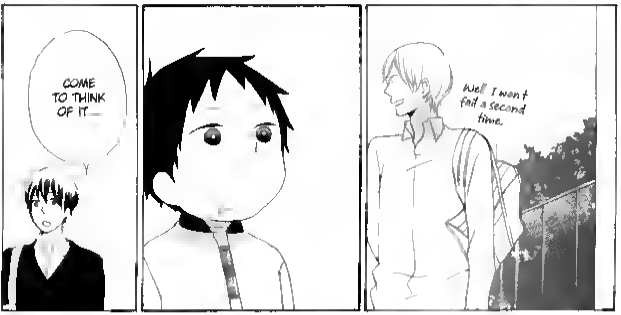
A FRIENDSHIP WHERE WE'D HIT EACH OTHER
TO STOP THE OTHER FROM CHOOSING THE WRONG PATH
True
Friendship
TWINKLING, SPARKLING
SHARING JOY AND SADNESS TOGETHER
SUPPORTING EACH OTHER WITH TRUE FRIENDSHIP
WELL,
THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE THE TRUTH
WHY DON'T I HAVE IT?
We're the bad people.
If you look at it from an outsider's point of view,
it looks like we made him cry
HE WAS ENVIOUS OF YOU ALL THIS TIME

teary
dash
UWAHHH!
CRYING LIKE A CHILD
HOW SHAMEFUL!
PEOPLE WHO HAVE FRIENDS DON'T GET IT

He was envious of you all this time
NOR DOES HE KNOW HOW DELIGHTFUL IT IS TO HAVE WONDERFUL FRIENDS
THAT PERSON DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S LIKE TO THINK ABOUT OTHERS
WHAT ENVY...
That's literally impossible
SOB
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S JUST AN UNREASONABLE KID

IT HAS GOT TO BE SOME KIND OF CURSE
THAT WAS A DIS-ASTER, HUH?
HE DIDN'T HAVE TO ACCOST US SECOND YEARS WITH HIS TAN-TRUMS

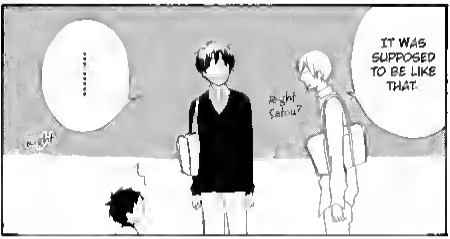

Meow
Are you trying to make me blush?
Oh my! Satou-kun!
.....
It was even better than your usual!
Hey, I'm being praised right?
THE ONES HEISUKE BRINGS ARE ALWAYS DELICIOUS
FAILING AT MAKING SWEETS MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS


COME TO THINK OF IT—
Well, I won't fail a second time.

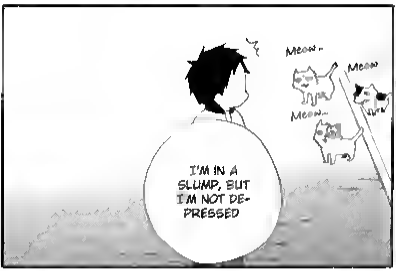
I WANT TO
GIVE IT TO HE-SUKE TO MAKE HIM BETTER

FOUR LEAF
Four leaf?
OH!
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR CLOVERS!

AKI-KUN WHY WERE YOU PLAYING AROUND HERE?

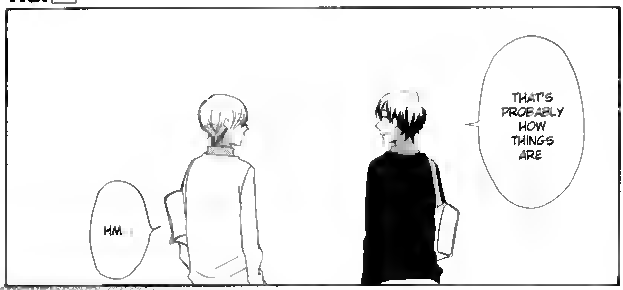

.....
Right Satou?
IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE THAT.

AKKUN
SINCE HIS SWEETS BECAME
BURNT


Meow
Meow
Meow
I'M IN A SLUMP, BUT I'M NOT DEPRESSED

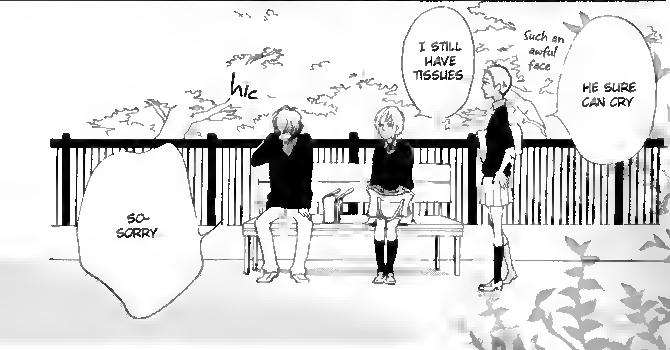
Ha ha ha ha!
HEY LOOK, AKKUN, THE CATS ARE COMING OVER
COVERING UP IS PROBABLY MAKING YOU GENERALIZE TOO MUCH!

.....
RECENTLY HE'S BEEN WORRIED ABOUT ME
EVEN THOUGH I TOLD HIM I WAS FINE
Meow
Isn't that how it is?
?
HEAVY-WEIGHTS ARE REALLY HEAVY
EVEN THOUGH THIS KIND OF THING NEVER MADE ME FRET BEFORE
Then of course


HM
THAT'S PROBABLY HOW THINGS ARE

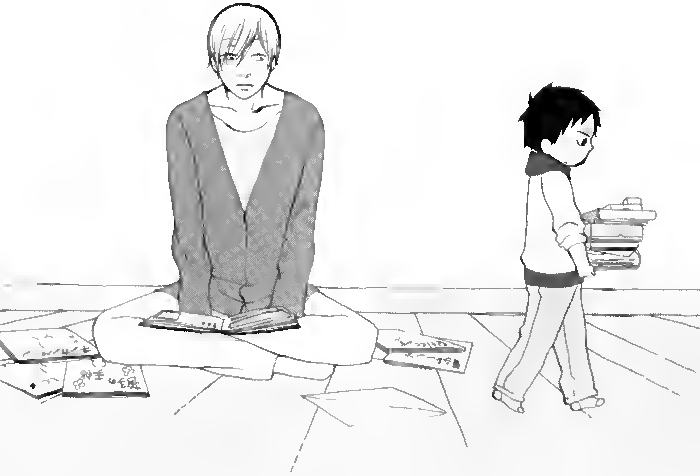
Huh
Seems so
I guess he won't be coming anymore to the classroom
At any rate, that was a noisy first year, huh?

sob
sob
.....


hic
I STILL HAVE TISSUES
Such an awful face
HE SURE CAN CRY
SO-SORRY

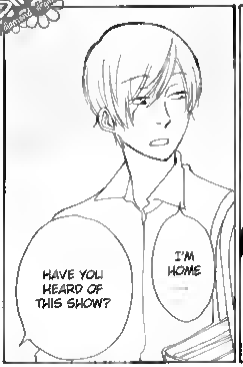
.....
.....
HE SAID HE'S DRAWING A PICTURE OF HIMSELF TAKING A WALK
SEEMS LIKE HE CAN'T BE SATISFIED, EH?
with his own drawing
sketch
sketch
COULD HE BE INFECTED BY YOUR SLUMP?
You were so depressed and quiet yesterday.
MAYBE

MAYBE THAT'S WHY I KEEP ON MESSING UP MY BAKING
NO. THAT WAS ALL YOU
I JUST AM.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?
YOU'RE JUST BLAMING EVERYTHING ON ME...
SAY WHAT!?
EVEN THE OVEN IS BROKEN
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO DO WITHOUT IT 'TIL IT'S FIXED
AND THERE HE WAS TRYING TO BE SO CONSIDERATE TO YOU.
AH HA HA...
IT'S DEPRESSING EVEN TO AKKUN, I GUESS.
HE GOT LOST DURING THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL, AND THE OTHER DAY HE COULDN'T FIND THE FOUR-LEAF CLOVER HE WANTED...
HE'S SO SERIOUS ABOUT EVERYTHING HE DOES
YOU'RE ENJOYING YOURSELF, HUH, MOM?
I NEVER GET TIRED OF IT.
.....



IT COULD JUST BE BECAUSE AKKUN'S A KID.
BUT MAYBE THAT'S JUST THE WAY HE IS
He's straightforward.
HM...
HE SURE DOESN'T TAKE AFTER YOU, DOES HE?
WELL...
YEAH. I COULD NEVER IMAGINE YOU... I DON'T KNOW. ABSORBED IN READING THE DICTIONARY OR SOMETHING
HE JUST TURNED OUT TO BE SUCH A GOOD KID
He's always so behaved.
Ah ha ha
At least try to deny it
YEP.
I THINK SO
THE DAY YOU START APPLYING YOURSELF
YOU'D PROBABLY DROP DEAD FROM THE EFFORT, DON'T YOU THINK?
Ah ha ha
I WONDER IF IT WILL BREAK INTO SEVEN LITTLE PIECES OR SO...
That straightforwardness...
What the hell?
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT AVOIDING HIM ALTOGETHER?
Your own cousin
I WONDER WHAT IT IS.
WHEN I SEE HIM LIKE THAT...
MY CHEST ACHES.
And it feels so heavy.
Don't lie.

WOULDN'T IT BE NICE FOR YOU TO JUST FOCUS ON HANGING OUT WITH HIM ONCE IN A WHILE?
ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU'RE SO CAREFREE.
WOULD YOU REALLY DO THAT? HE LOVES JUST BEING AROUND YOU
Boom...
BOOM?
WOULDN'T THAT BE KINDA IMPOSSIBLE? AT LEAST UNTIL HIS "HE-SUKE-BOOM" SUBSIDES
What? I just take it down a notch or two...?
Nope no concessions allowed
It's fresh off the grill so be careful!
AH!
IT'S HERE!
THANK YOU FOR WAITING!
I THINK HE'S TOO SERIOUS, OR SOMETHING HE'S GOOD THAT WAY
But maybe if he could just... A little...
.....
IT'S NOT LIKE...
REDD,
IS SO COOL!
Smile
I GUESS I HAVE TO MAKE MORE OF AN EFFORT...
SOMEHOW...
Give me a bite of that Apple Pie.
No way!


I'M HOME
HAVE YOU HEARD OF THIS SHOW?

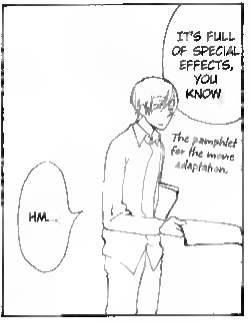
He sparkled
OH, IS THAT SO?
nod
OH HEISUKE WELCOME HOME
ALTHOUGH WE MOSTLY JUST WATCHED THE PEOPLE GOING CRAZY AND SCREAMING
HE'S EVEN POPULAR WITH THE PARENTS
Even I did, at first.

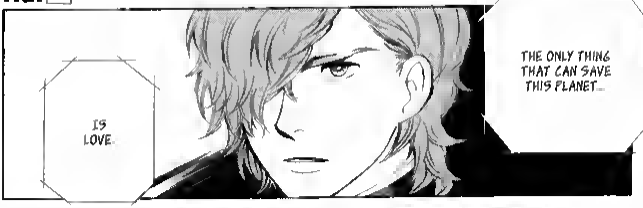
AKI ASKED ME HOW IT IS...
SO I JUST BROUGHT A FEW EPISODES TO SHOW HIM

nod
HUH...?
AKI WAS JUST TELLING US HOW INTERESTING IT IS, RIGHT?
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

WAR
POVERTY... HUNGER...
THEY ALL GAVE RISE TO THESE PEOPLE HURT AND EXHAUSTED THEIR DREAMS, LOST

YOU WANT TO WATCH IT, TOO?
EH?
NO I...
I KNOW, LET'S PUT IT ON FOR A BIT.


IT'S FULL OF SPECIAL EFFECTS, YOU KNOW
The pamphlet for the movie adaptation.
HM...


THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE THIS PLANET...
IS LOVE.

FIFTH EPISODE... THAT SOUNDS AGES AWAY...
we've just started episode one...
IT GETS INTERESTING FROM THE FIFTH EPISODE ON.

DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
Failed to escape
WHY...

THE "ABSTRACT" SEASON?

DIDN'T YOU WATCH THIS TOO WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, HEISUKE?
And I YEAH... think you were with me then, too auntie...
WHICH SEASON WAS IT?
Draw it, draw it!

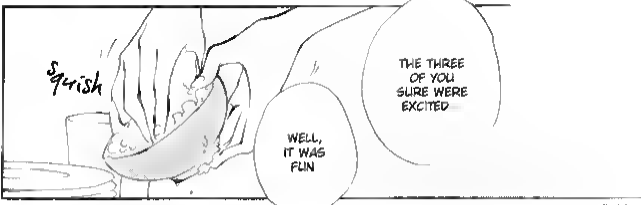
AK! YOU LIKE THE GENERAL TOO, DON'T YOU?
nod

HE'S COOL AND FLUFF...
HM...
Say some thing other than "Hm..." will you?
HE PROTECTED MISS PINK WITH HIS RIGHT ARM, HUH?
HM

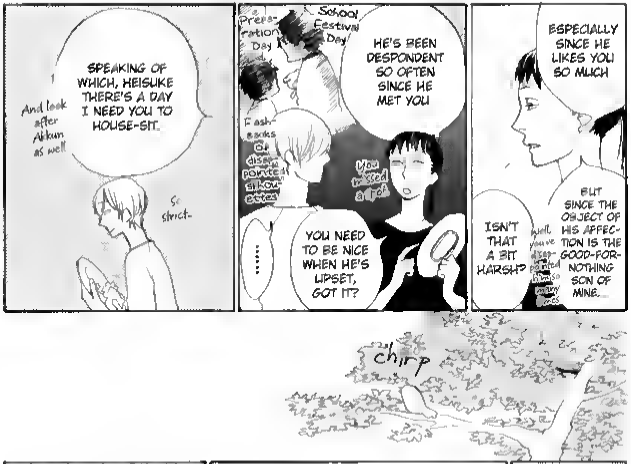
HWITE.
HE'S LIKE THIS.
BUT THE ONE THAT YOU'RE WATCHING NOW SURE HAS A LOT MORE PEOPLE IN IT
AH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT THERE'S A WHITE ONE TOO RIGHT?
IT'S
IT'S NOT BAD
OH
IT'S ALRIGHT AKKLIN
Don't worry about it
And anyway I don't really remember

YEAH
HE'S COOL!
THAT'S RIGHT AND THIS HWITE HERE...

Hm...
He's kind of useless though.


Squish
THE THREE OF YOU SURE WERE EXCITED
WELL, IT WAS FUN

NOW IF THE SPECIAL EFFECTS WERE FOUR OR SO TIMES BETTER.
That would be interesting.
YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING SHALLOW NOW, AREN'T YOU?
SEEING AKKUN HAVE FUN LIKE THAT REALLY SETS MY HEART AT EASE
YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE BORED OUT OF YOUR MIND
YEAH
DON'T DISAPPOINT HIM.
I KNOW...
swish
NO... JUST THINKING ABOUT A GOOD WAY TO KEEP A LITTLE KID COMPANY...
MY, HOW NOBLE
YES, I SUPPOSE THAT WOULD DO IT
That's...
impossible... and unreasonable...


SPEAKING OF WHICH, HEISUKE
And look after Akkun as well!
THERE'S A DAY I NEED YOU TO HOUSE-SIT.
-So strict-
Preparation Day
School Festival Day
HE'S BEEN DESPONDENT SO OFTEN SINCE HE MET YOU
Flashback: Ch. 1 page 9 panel 4
You messed up!!
YOU NEED TO BE NICE WHEN HE'S UPSET, GOT IT?
.....
BESPECIALLY SINCE HE LIKES YOU SO MUCH
ISN'T THAT A BIT HARSH?
Well, you've kept rejecting his confessions so many times...
BUT SINCE THE OBJECT OF HIS AFFECTION IS THE GOOD-FOR-NOTHING SON OF MINE...
chirp
AKKUN, IT'S OKAY I'LL FINISH UP THE REST.
He looks like he might clean the bath tub by himself again.
WHEN AKKUN IS AROUND, I CAN'T SLACK OFF
Maybe it's him that's looking after me.
BUT THIS...
scrub
scrub
I DON'T REALLY MIND HOUSE-SITTING
hush

*Text: Haute Reild
AH...
IT'S FINALLY DONE!

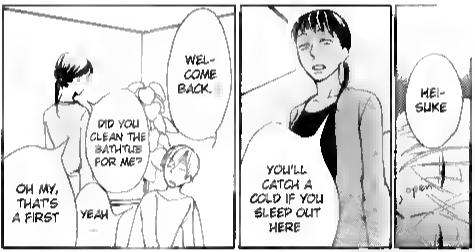
This'll dry out on its own eventually right?
YOU WANNA
WATCH IT.?
nod
Sparkle
Sparkle
.....
I have a feeling it'll turn out better today
Nothing to do...
MAYBE I'LL BAKE A CAKE OR SOMETHING
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?
Dun Dun Dun THEME MUSIC!
HE REALLY LIKES IT, HUH?

The human heart is such a mysterious thing...
BUT I JUST BAKED THE OTHER DAY
If I bake too often Mom will start nagging
WAIT THE OVEN'S BROKEN RIGHT?
DANG THAT JUST MAKES ME WANT TO BAKE EVEN MORE
Are we getting a new one?
Instead of repairing the old one?
AND THUS THE WARRIORS SAVED THE CHILDREN
BUT UNBE-KNOWNST TO OUR BRAVE HEROES, A NEW EVIL FORCE IS STIRRING AND IS ALREADY IN THEIR MIDST
つづく!!
*TN: To be continued.
Whoa...

TURN

ZZZ...

HEI-SUKE

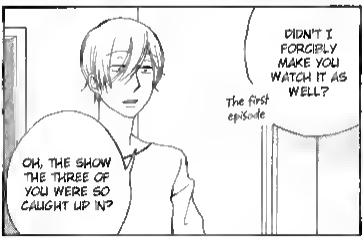

WEL-COME BACK.
DID YOU CLEAN THE BATHTUB FOR ME?
YEAH
OH MY, THAT'S A FIRST
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU SLEEP OUT HERE
HEI-SUKE
open

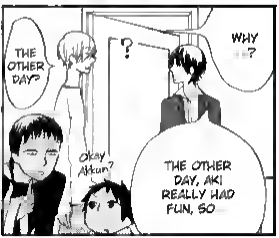
DID YOU DO ANYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WHILE YOU WERE HOUSE-SITTING?
ERR
DID I-.?
OH, YOU DIDN'T?
BUT YOU KNOW

WHY?
I DON'T KNOW DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA?
NO I WAS ASLEEP
HE LOOKS GLOOMY AGAIN
nod
AKKUN WAS WATCHING THAT SHOW
The same thing forever
WAS IT INTERESTING, AKKUN? THE RANGER SHOW?

HE JUST WANTED TO WATCH IT TOGETHER WITH YOU!
THAT AKI!

I don't get it
SO YOU DID SOMETHING, HUH?
Urgh
HANG ON, I'M THINKING ABOUT WHAT I DID TODAY, OKAY?
Stop talking like that!


DIDN'T I FORCIBLY MAKE YOU WATCH IT AS WELL?
The first episode
OH, THE SHOW THE THREE OF YOU WERE SO CAUGHT UP IN?


WHY...?
?
THE OTHER DAY?
Okay Akkun?
THE OTHER DAY, AKI REALLY HAD FUN, SO...

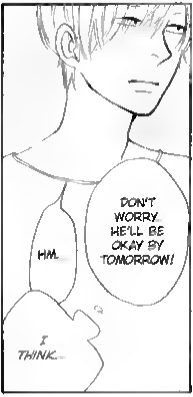
SO I WAS COUNTED AS A FAN TOO...
YOU WERE WATCHING TOO, SO YES

Will that fit in there?

WE WERE REALLY INTO IT
.....

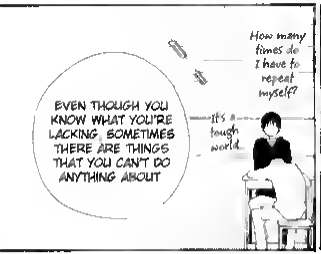
I mean right?
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THIS LAST TIME
Innocent
SO IT'S ALL GOOD, RIGHT?

THERE IS SOMETHING I LACK
If I had that...
I'm sure things would go smoothly
IN ANY CASE, LACKING OR NOT...


DON'T WORRY. HE'LL BE OKAY BY TOMORROW!
HM...
I THINK...

I WONDER WHAT IT IS...
I See...
THAT I'M LACKING...

Being downhearted has a really bad aftertaste
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVE A PAST RECORD, AM I RIGHT?
BUT STILL I CAN'T JUST SHAKE IT OFF


How many times do I have to repeat myself?
It's a tough world
EVEN THOUGH YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LACKING, SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS THAT YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT

I WONDER WHAT IT IS...
CON-SIDER-ATION

COMMON SENSE

IF YOU REMEMBERED TO DO IT, TURN IT IN ALREADY!
THE WORKSHEET?
Did you come to get it?
Those teachers... why can't they ask him themselves!
LIKE THE LAZINESS OF A CERTAIN SOMEONE
AUNTIE SAYS HE'LL BE OKAY BY TODAY
WILL HE?
HE LOOKS LIKE NORMAL I GUESS
UH
WELCOME BACK!
HE REALLY IS MOSTLY NORMAL TODAY
W...
I'M BACK...

BECAUSE I...
I FALL ASLEEP SOMETIMES TOO.
IT'S NOT...
HE-SUKE'S FAULT
HEY, I'M SORRY ABOUT FALLING ASLEEP YESTERDAY...
ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT REALLY AN EXCUSE...
Probably
YOU'RE GIVING IT TO YOUR MOTHER, RIGHT AKKUN?
nod
HE PICKED IT WHEN WE WENT OUT EARLIER TODAY
REALLY
IT'S PRETTY...
nod
IS THAT SO?
Auntie is amazing.
She talked
OKAY, HERE'S YOUR FLOWER, AKKUN.

AKKUN, YOU'RE VERY GOOD AT MAKING PEOPLE HAPPY AREN'T YOU?
MOM AND I WE CAN'T TAKE WALKS TOGETHER A LOT
IT'S A PRESENT
Hm...
I WONDER IF THIS PURITY IS WHAT I LACK.
IT'S DANGEROUS TO PUT IT ON THE EDGE, SO PUT IT IN THE MIDDLE, OKAY?
IF MOM'S HAPPY
I'M HAPPY TOO
HOW PURE...
Wow...
knock
Splash
fall

roll
What a perfect way of snapping!
AKKUN
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO DOWN
SNAP
IT WAS
A SHORT-LIVED PEACE
drip
drip
YOU SHOULD GO PICK ANOTHER ONE.
THERE ARE OTHER PLACES WITH PRETTY FLOWERS TOO.
.....

HEISUKE SAYS HE'LL GO WITH YOU.
OH...
Mom, you're amazing.
HE'S BRIGHTENING UP
YOU CAN EVEN GO RIGHT NOW
THERE'S PLENTY OF DAYLIGHT LEFT
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN...
IT SHOULD BE JUST A LITTLE BIT FARTHER...
S-- that's how it's supposed to be.
It's not like the flower's going to run away or something.
THERE'S NO NEED TO WALK SO PURPOSEFULLY...
.....
march
march
march

AH, SO YOU FOUND IT?
YOU JUST STARTED TO RUN OFF...
you surprised me
THAT WAY!
joy
dash
AKKUN!?
dread
.....
AH OH NO! PLEASE DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT
YOU MIGHT GET LOST AGAIN
I KNOW YOU'RE EXCITED
BUT DON'T GO RUNNING OFF SOMEWHERE BY YOURSELF, OKAY?
AKKUN
WHAT DO I DO NOW?

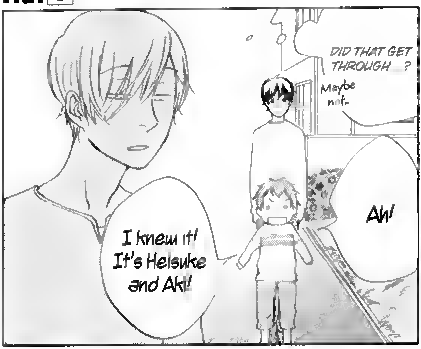
DON'T YOU WANT TO GO PICK YOUR FLOWER?
I SWORE.
TO NOT GET LOST...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GLUE YOURSELF TO MY HIP EITHER.
stiff
YOU KNOW...
Sometimes there are things that you can't do anything about
Why is she always right?
THAT'S RIGHT
I DON'T THINK I CAN CHANGE MY NATURE
No way
Heavy
HIS DETERMINATION IS TOO SERIOUS
HE'S SO SERIOUS
AKKUN, YOU'RE REALLY SERIOUS, AREN'T YOU?

.....
GETTING LOST IS BAD
BRR, WELL THAT'S TRUE...
I can't really argue with that
I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY NEED TO WORK SO HARD
YEAH...
I...
I DON'T WANT TO MAKE THINGS BAD FOR YOU
I...
HE-SUKE...
I...
I LIKE TO HAVE...
FUN

I SEE
I WANT TO HAVE FUN.
TOGE-THER
THIS IS PROBABLY IT
THAT THING I'M LACKING
TO HAVE FUN WITH SOMEONE AND JUST BEING WITH SOME-ONE
ARE DIF-FERENT, HUH?
HE'S BEEN DESPONDENT SO OFTEN SINCE HE MET YOU
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE TO NOT DISAP-POINT HIM
But you know..?

EXTREME, DON'T YOU THINK?
THAT'S A BIT...
It's just a "but" though...
I GUESS IT'S...
INSTEAD OF YOU GETTING ALL DEPRESSED, I GUESS...
.....
INSTEAD OF WALKING AROUND WITH THAT GLOOMY FACE...
I'D BREATHE EASIER IF YOU JUST HAD FUN

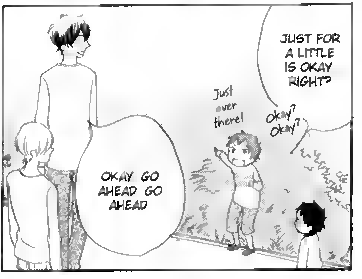
THIS IS TOUGH.
GETTING LOST IS TOUGH TOO, HUH?
THIS IS TOUGH.
AH... THAT'S RIGHT.
I'm tired of this.
No, that's bad.
So weak, Sohei.
No, that's bad too.
UM.
UM.
YOU CAN PLAY YOUR HEART OUT.
IT MIGHT BE TOUGH...
You can be too introverted, I guess.
BUT YOU CAN'T BE AFRAID OF GETTING LOST GET IN YOUR WAY OF HAVING FUN
And have it all pent up inside.
BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO GET SO WORKED UP
UM.


I knew it! It's Heisuke and Aki!
Ah!
Maybe not.
DID THAT GET THROUGH...?

So your Nii-chan and Nee-chan are back in town?
I SEE...
HEY, NII-CHAN I CAN PLAY WITH AKI NOW, RIGHT?
RELATIVES CAME TO VISIT
IT WAS A PAIN SO I LEFT THE HOUSE
My Nii-chan and Nee-chan are entertaining them
And after that Kotaro came along,

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? TAKING A WALK?
SATOU
Hey there!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE!
YO, AKI!
YOU LOOK GLUM AS ALWAYS

LET'S GO, AKI!
HE SAID OKAY!


JUST FOR A LITTLE IS OKAY RIGHT?
Just over there!
Okay? Okay?
OKAY. GO AHEAD. GO AHEAD

HE'S CONFLICTED

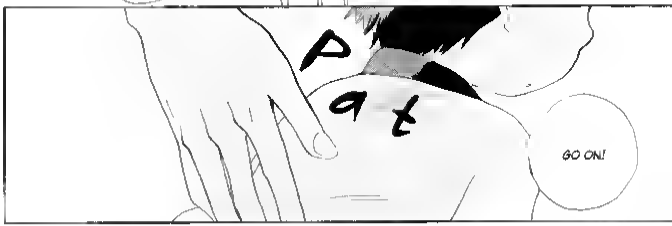
So what's your problem then!?

WHAT IS IT? YOU DON'T WANT TO PLAY WITH ME OR SOMETHING?
AH!
I WANT TO PLAY!

GO ON AND PLAY, AKKUN

WE'LL PICK THE FLOWER WHEN YOU'RE DONE

turn
THERE
THERE


Pat
GO ON!

LET'S GO THAT WAY!
I GUESS THERE'S NO WAY TO CHANGE SOMEONE'S NATURE.

IF YOU CAN DO THAT SO EASILY, YOU'RE ALREADY DOING WHAT SUZUKI SAID
WELL, I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING.
I guess...?
That speech was
I thought it was going to be worse.
WOW YOU'RE ACTUALLY TRYING.
I SUPPOSE
Right?
MY, WHAT A PRETTY FLOWER.
HELPED TOO!
HE-SUKE.

Nod
Nod
THANK YOU I'M SO HAPPY!
YOU WENT OUT TO PICK THIS JUST FOR ME, DIDN'T YOU SWEETIE?
That was nice of him to go with you
KOTARO HELPED TOO!
MY IS THAT SO? you two sure get along well
IT WOULD BE EASIER TO ACCOMPANY HIM IF HE WERE A LITTLE BIT OLDER.
At least for me...
I THINK
GOOD BOY, GOOD BOY
I'M FEELING LIKE I DID SOMETHING GOOD
THAT WENT WELL
OH. YOU DID
YOU'D BE AWFULLY LONELY I THINK
WHEN HE GROWS UP, WON'T HE LOSE INTEREST IN YOU?
YEAH
YOU MEAN AKKUN?

WORK ETHIC
BY THE WAY, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING, MOM?
WHAT IS IT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK IT IS THAT I'M LACKING?
I GUESS
PRO-BABLY
AH
MAN I WONDER WHY
IT NEVER WORKS OUT FOR ME

flat③

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HandClap

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flat ③ Natsu Aogiri

青桐ナツ

BLADE COMICS AVARUS

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Mag GARDEN

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マッグガーデン

Aki is an extremely persistent child, and for some reason he is emotionally attached to high school student Heisuke, who is an extremely 'my pace' kind of guy. Together, they have exceedingly peaceful days.

However, an extremely serious high school student named Kaidou brings about a storm to their usual days!?

Introducing Volume 3!